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ABSTRACT

This databook presents 100 tables of statistics on the characteristics of working women in the United States and their changing sociceconomic status, especially during the 1970s. Most of these statistics are from the Current Population Survey (a household sample survey conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census). Part 1 contains fifteen tables on the labor force participation of women between 1950 and 1979, with emphasis on trends during the 1970s. Five tables on the extent of work experience of men and women are provided in part 2. Part 3 consists of sixteen tables, which detail working women's marital, family, and child status. Changes in women's school enrollment and education are the subject of eleven tables in the fourth part. The seventeen tables provided in part 5 examine the earnings and income of women and families. Part 6 contains nineteen tables of data by race and Hispanic origin, and part 7 presents fourteen tables of additional information, including data on such subjects as job tenure and moonlighting. Part 8 concludes with three tables on labor force and employment patterns at the outset of the 1980s. (MN)

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Perspectives on Working Women: A Databook

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U.S. Department of Labor
Ray Marshall, Secretary

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Janet L. Norwood, Commissioner
October 1980

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Foreword

Today, more than at any time in this century, women are firmly established members of our Nation's work force. Many of their concerns are the same as those faced by working men, such as equitable wages, occupational choice, adequate retirement benefits, and the maintenance of a safe and healthy workplace. Nevertheless, the world of work remains inhospitable for large groups of women, including those who have children that they must raise and support on their own, and others who are held back by bias against women.

During the 1970's, the Bureau of Labor Statistics continued to be a primary source of information on the phenomenal upsurge in women's labor market participation. The Bureau published many new reports and introduced several new data series that improved the country's ability to understand and measure the dramatic changes. The new information is included in this databook, along with other subjects ranging from historical labor force and earnings trends to job safety. As the 1980's progress, we shall continue to concentrate our efforts on monitoring trends and developments and producing statistics on women which are timely and informative.

Janet L. Norwood
Commissioner of Labor Statistics

Preface

This databook presents a wide array of information on the characteristics of working women in the United States and their changing socioeconomic status, especially during the 1970's. An earlier version entitled *U.S. Working Women: A Databook* was published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1977. The present databook is a major expansion of the earlier publication and contains new and more detailed statistics on women's labor force participation. The great majority of the data are from the Current Population Survey, a household sample survey conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census. Most of this information is published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in a series of Special Labor Force Reports and in the monthly periodicals *Employment and Earnings* and the *Monthly Labor Review*.

Part I provides information on the extraordinary increase in the labor force participation of women between 1950 and 1979, with special emphasis on trends during the 1970's and some data from the first half of 1980. Part II looks at the strength of women's attachment to the labor force by showing the number of weeks they worked or looked for work during an entire year. Part III focuses on working women's marital, family, and child status, and Part IV reviews changes in women's school enrollment and education. Part V examines the earnings and incomes of women and families. Part VI looks at data by race and Hispanic origin, and Part VII has additional information including data on such subjects as job tenure and moonlighting. Part VIII concludes with a glimpse of labor force and employment patterns at the outset of the 1980's. Unless otherwise indicated, all data refer to the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and over. Because of rounding, sums of individual items in the tables may not equal totals. Sampling variability may be relatively large in cases where numbers are small. Small differences between estimates or percentages should be interpreted with caution.

This databook was prepared in the Division of Labor Force Studies, Office of Current Employment Analysis. It was prepared by Howard Hayghe and Beverly L. Johnson under the general direction of Elizabeth Waldman. Loretta Profater, Barbara Nussear and Annie Wilder provided valuable support.

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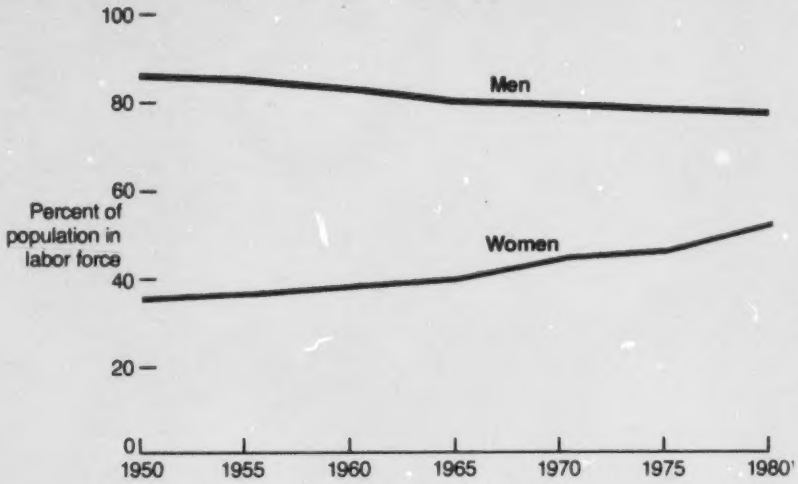
Part I.

Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment

The extraordinary increase in women's labor force activity that characterized the 1970's continued unabated through practically all of 1979. Nearly 12 million more women were in the labor force in 1979 than in 1970; these women accounted for about 60 percent of the gain in the labor force. Areas of considerable change in the 1970's which are bound to affect women's labor force participation in the 1980's include:

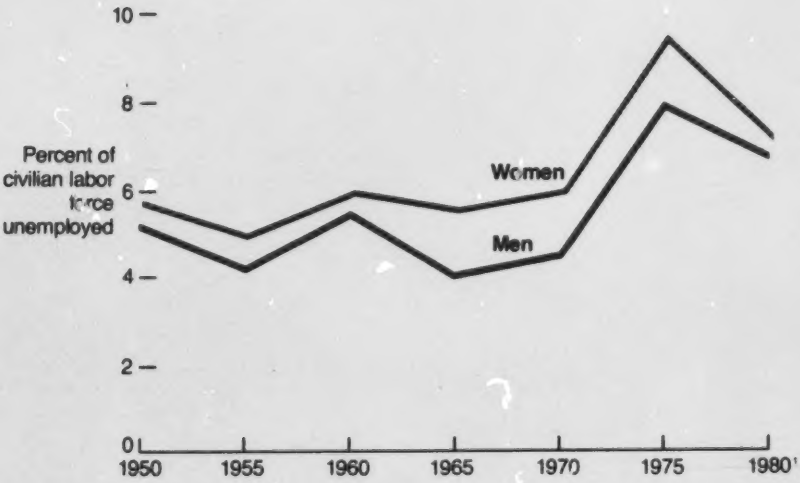
- *Age.* Women 25 to 34 years old accounted for nearly half the increase in the number of female workers during the 1970's. A remarkable 64 percent of all women 25 to 34 were working or looking for work in 1979, and the first half of 1980, including 54 percent of the mothers in this age group who had to juggle the responsibilities of home and child care with those of a job. The pattern of a more continuous work history for women in these ages may widen their career and advancement opportunities in the 1980's.
- *Changing job mix.* Although the majority (55 percent) of employed women began the 1980's in traditional clerical and service occupations, a substantial number had made inroads into professional-technical jobs with higher status and earnings, e.g., doctors, lawyers and accountants. In 1970, 60 percent of all female professional-technical workers were in the more traditional areas of nursing and pre-college teaching; by 1979, this proportion had dropped to about 52 percent.
- *Unemployment.* About 2.9 million women were unemployed in 1979, an increase of around a million since 1970. The unemployment rate for women, which had climbed from 5.9 percent in 1970 to a record high 9.3 percent at mid-decade, had dropped to 6.8 percent in 1979. As in past decades, unemployment rates generally remained higher for women than men, with the gap widening when business was buoyant and declining during sluggish periods, such as the first half of 1980.
- *Women not in the labor force.* Women constitute about 7 of 10 persons outside the work force. For the most part, these women state that they do not want a job, reporting household responsibilities as the main reason they neither work nor look for work. However, as greater proportions of younger women enter the labor market, the women who do not work for pay outside their homes are increasingly older; in 1979, the median age of women not in the labor force was about 51 years, compared with a little more than 45 years at the beginning of the 1970's.

Chart 1.
Labor force participation rates of women and men, annual averages, 1950-80



¹January-June 1980

Chart 2.
Unemployment rates of women and men, annual averages, 1950-80



¹January-June 1980

Table 1. Women in the labor force, annual averages, selected years, 1950-79, and January-June 1980

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Labor force		
	Total, both sexes	Women	
		Number	Percent of total
1950	62,208	18,389	29.6
1955	65,023	20,548	31.6
1960	69,628	23,240	33.4
1965	74,455	26,200	35.2
1970	82,715	31,520	38.1
1975	92,613	36,998	39.9
1979	102,908	43,391	42.1
January-June 1980	103,884	44,126	42.5

Table 2. Labor force participation rates of women and men, annual averages, 1950-79, and January-June 1980

Year	Participation rate (Percent of population in labor force)	
	Women	Men
1950	33.9	86.4
1951	34.6	86.5
1952	34.7	86.3
1953	34.4	86.0
1954	34.6	85.5
1955	35.7	85.3
1956	36.9	85.5
1957	36.9	84.8
1958	37.1	84.2
1959	37.1	83.7
1960	37.7	83.3
1961	38.1	82.9
1962	37.9	82.0
1963	38.3	81.4
1964	38.7	81.0
1965	39.3	80.7
1966	40.3	80.4
1967	41.1	80.4
1968	41.6	80.1
1969	42.7	79.8
1970	43.3	79.7
1971	43.3	79.1
1972	43.9	79.0
1973	44.7	78.8
1974	45.6	78.7
1975	46.3	77.9
1976	47.3	77.5
1977	48.4	77.7
1978	50.0	77.9
1979	51.0	77.9
January-June 1980	51.2	77.2

Table 3. Women in the labor force by age, annual averages, selected years, 1950-79, and January-June 1980

Age	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1979	January-June 1980
Total: Number (in thousands)	**18,389**	**20,548**	**23,240**	**26,200**	**31,520**	**36,998**	**43,391**	**44,126**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
16 and 17	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.6	4.2	4.5	4.3	3.8
18 and 19	6.0	5.3	5.4	6.0	6.1	6.5	6.1	5.7
20 to 24	14.5	11.9	11.1	12.8	15.5	16.4	16.2	15.7
25 to 34	22.3	20.7	17.8	16.5	18.1	22.9	25.7	26.6
35 to 44	22.6	23.4	22.8	21.8	18.9	17.5	18.7	19.4
45 to 54	18.1	20.2	22.7	21.8	20.7	18.0	15.8	15.8
55 to 64	10.0	11.6	12.8	13.7	13.2	11.5	10.6	10.4
65 and over	3.2	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.4	2.8	2.6	2.6
Median age	36.7	38.9	40.4	40.1	37.8	34.9	34.1	34.3

Table 4. Labor force participation rates of women by age, annual averages, selected years, 1950-79, and January-June 1980

Age	Participation rate (Percent of population in labor force)				
	1950	1960	1970	1979	January-June 1980
Total, 16 years and over	**33.9**	**37.7**	**43.3**	**51.0**	**51.2**
16 and 17	30.1	29.1	34.9	45.8	41.6
18 and 19	51.3	50.9	53.6	62.9	60.5
20 to 24	46.0	46.1	57.7	69.1	67.7
25 to 34	34.0	36.0	45.0	63.8	65.4
35 to 44	39.1	43.4	51.1	63.6	65.5
45 to 54	37.9	49.8	54.4	58.4	59.6
55 to 64	27.0	37.2	43.0	41.9	41.7
65 and over	9.0	10.8	9.7	8.3	8.3

Table 5. Labor force participation rates of women 20 years and over by year of birth and age, annual averages, selected years, 1955-79

Year of birth	1955		1960		1965	
	Age	Rate	Age	Rate	Age	Rate
1956-60						
1951-55						
1946-50						
1941-45					20-24	50.0
1936-40			20-24	46.2	25-29	38.9
1931-35	20-24	46.0	25-29	35.7	30-34	38.2
1926-30	25-29	35.3	30-34	36.3	35-39	43.6
1921-25	30-34	34.7	35-39	40.8	40-44	48.5
1916-20	35-39	39.2	40-44	46.8	45-49	51.7
1911-15	40-44	44.1	45-49	50.7	50-54	50.1
1906-10	45-49	45.9	50-54	48.8	55-59	47.1
1901-05	50-54	41.5	55-59	42.2	60-64	34.0
1896-1901	55-59	35.6	60-64	31.4	65-69	17.4
1895 or before	60-64	29.0	65-69	17.6	70 and over	6.1
	65-69	17.8	70 and over	6.8		
	70 and over	6.4				

Year of birth	1970		1975		1979	
	Age	Rate	Age	Rate	Age	Rate
1956-60					20-24	69.1
1951-55			20-24	64.1	25-29	65.7
1946-50	20-24	57.8	25-29	57.0	30-34	61.8
1941-45	25-29	45.2	30-34	51.7	35-39	63.4
1936-40	30-34	44.7	35-39	54.9	40-44	63.9
1931-35	35-39	49.2	40-44	56.8	45-49	60.4
1926-30	40-44	52.9	45-49	55.9	50-54	56.5
1921-25	45-49	55.0	50-54	53.3	55-59	48.7
1916-20	50-54	53.8	55-59	47.9	60-64	33.9
1911-15	55-59	49.0	60-64	33.3	65-69	15.3
1906-10	60-64	36.1	65-69	14.5	70 and over	4.7
1901-05	65-69	17.3	70 and over	4.8		
1896-1901	70 and over	5.7				
1895 or before						

Table 6. Employed and unemployed women, annual averages, 1950-79, and January-June 1980

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Employed			Unemployed		
	Total, both sexes	Women		Total, both sexes	Women	
		Number	Percent of total employed		Number	Percent of total unemployed
1950	58,918	17,340	29.4	3,288	1,049	31.9
1951	59,961	18,181	30.3	2,055	834	40.6
1952	60,250	18,568	30.8	1,883	698	37.1
1953	61,179	18,749	30.6	1,834	632	34.5
1954	60,109	18,490	30.8	3,532	1,188	33.6
1955	62,170	19,551	31.4	2,852	998	35.0
1956	63,799	20,419	32.0	2,750	1,039	37.8
1957	64,071	20,714	32.3	2,859	1,018	35.6
1958	63,036	20,613	32.7	4,602	1,504	32.7
1959	64,630	21,164	32.7	3,740	1,320	35.3
1960	65,778	21,874	33.3	3,852	1,366	35.5
1961	65,746	22,090	33.6	4,714	1,717	36.4
1962	66,702	22,525	33.8	3,911	1,488	38.0
1963	67,762	23,105	34.1	4,070	1,598	39.3
1964	69,305	23,831	34.4	3,786	1,581	41.8
1965	71,088	24,748	34.8	3,366	1,452	43.1
1966	72,895	25,976	35.6	2,875	1,324	46.1
1967	74,372	26,892	36.2	2,975	1,468	49.3
1968	75,920	27,807	36.6	2,817	1,397	49.6
1969	77,902	29,084	37.3	2,831	1,428	50.4
1970	78,627	29,667	37.7	4,088	1,853	45.3
1971	79,120	29,875	37.8	4,993	2,217	44.4
1972	81,702	31,072	38.0	4,840	2,205	45.6
1973	84,409	32,446	38.4	4,304	2,064	48.0
1974	85,936	33,417	38.9	5,076	2,408	47.4
1975	84,783	33,553	39.6	7,830	3,445	44.0
1976	87,485	35,095	40.1	7,288	3,320	45.6
1977	90,546	36,685	40.5	6,855	3,267	47.7
1978	94,373	38,882	41.2	6,047	2,996	49.5
1979	96,945	40,446	41.7	5,963	2,945	49.4
January-June 1980	96,668	40,990	42.4	7,216	3,136	43.5

Table 7. Unemployment rates of women and men, annual averages, 1950-79, and January-June 1980

Year	Unemployment rate (Percent of labor force unemployed)			Ratio of women's unemployment rates to men's
	Both sexes	Women	Men	
1950	5.3	5.7	5.1	1.1
1951	3.3	4.4	2.8	1.6
1952	3.0	3.6	2.8	1.3
1953	2.9	3.3	2.8	1.2
1954	5.5	6.0	5.3	1.1
1955	4.4	4.9	4.2	1.2
1956	4.1	4.8	3.8	1.3
1957	4.3	4.7	4.1	1.1
1958	6.8	6.8	6.8	1.0
1959	5.5	5.9	5.3	1.1
1960	5.5	5.9	5.4	1.1
1961	6.7	7.2	6.4	1.1
1962	5.5	6.2	5.2	1.2
1963	5.7	6.5	5.2	1.3
1964	5.2	6.2	4.6	1.3
1965	4.5	5.5	4.0	1.4
1966	3.8	4.8	3.2	1.5
1967	3.8	5.2	3.1	1.7
1968	3.6	4.8	2.9	1.7
1969	3.5	4.7	2.8	1.7
1970	4.9	5.9	4.4	1.3
1971	5.9	6.9	5.3	1.3
1972	5.6	6.6	4.9	1.3
1973	4.9	6.0	4.1	1.5
1974	5.6	6.7	4.8	1.4
1975	8.5	9.3	7.9	1.2
1976	7.7	8.6	7.0	1.2
1977	7.0	8.2	6.2	1.3
1978	6.0	7.2	5.2	1.4
1979	5.8	6.8	5.1	1.3
January-June 1980	6.9	7.1	6.8	1.0

Table 8.
Unemployment rates of women and men by age, annual averages, 1970 and 1979

Age	Women		Men	
	1970	1979	1970	1979
16 and 17	17.4	18.3	16.9	17.9
18 and 19	14.4	15.0	13.4	14.2
20 to 24	7.9	9.6	8.4	8.6
25 to 34	5.7	6.4	3.4	4.2
35 to 44	4.4	4.6	2.4	2.9
45 to 54	3.5	3.9	2.4	2.7
55 to 64	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.7
65 and over	3.1	3.3	3.3	2.8

Table 9.
Unemployed women and men by reason for unemployment, annual averages, 1970 and 1979

Reason	Women		Men	
	1970	1979	1970	1979
Total: Number (in thousands)	**1,853**	**2,945**	**2,235**	**3,018**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Lost last job	33.0	32.0	53.0	53.4
Left last job	14.4	15.0	12.6	13.7
Reentered labor force	37.5	37.6	23.8	21.6
Looking for first job	15.0	15.4	10.0	11.4

Table 10. Occupational distribution of employed women, annual averages, selected years, 1950-79

Occupation	1950[1]	1960	1970	1979	Women as percent of all workers in occupation, 1979
Total: Number (in thousands)	**17,340**	**21,874**	**29,667**	**40,446**	**41.7**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**—**
Professional-technical	12.5	12.4	14.5	16.1	43.3
Managerial-administrative, except farm	4.4	5.0	4.5	6.4	24.6
Sales	8.7	7.7	7.0	6.9	45.1
Clerical	27.8	30.3	34.5	35.0	80.3
Craft	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.8	5.7
Operatives, including transport	19.6	15.2	14.5	11.5	32.0
Nonfarm laborers	0.8	0.4	0.5	1.3	11.3
Service, except private household	12.4	14.8	16.5	17.2	59.1
Private household	8.7	8.9	5.1	2.6	97.6
Farm	3.6	4.4	1.8	1.2	18.0

[1]Data include 14- and 15-year olds.

Table 11. Employment of women in selected occupations, 1950, 1960, 1970, and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Number				Women as percent of all workers in occupation			
	1950	1960	1970	1979	1950	1960	1970	1979
Professional-technical	1,946	2,746	4,576	6,519	40.1	38.0	40.0	43.3
Accountants	56	77	180	344	14.9	18.4	25.3	32.9
Engineers	6	8	20	40	1.2	0.9	1.6	2.9
Lawyers-judges	7	7	13	62	4.1	3.3	4.7	12.4
Physicians-osteopaths	12	16	25	46	6.5	6.8	8.9	10.7
Registered nurses	394	567	814	1,184	97.8	97.6	97.4	96.8
Teachers, except college and university	837	1,196	1,937	2,207	74.5	71.6	70.4	70.8
Teachers, college and university[1]	28	36	139	172	22.8	21.3	28.3	31.6
Technicians, excluding medical-dental	21	44	49	199	20.6	12.8	14.5	16.1
Writers-artists-entertainers	50	82	229	470	40.3	34.2	30.1	37.8
Managerial-administrative, except farm	672	780	1,061	2,586	13.8	14.4	16.6	24.6
Bank officials-financial managers	13	28	55	196	11.7	12.2	17.6	31.6
Buyers-purchasing agents	6	61	75	136	9.4	17.7	20.8	30.2
Food service workers	93	141	109	224	27.1	24.0	33.7	35.4
Sales managers-department heads; retail trade	35	68	51	135	24.6	28.2	24.1	39.8
Sales	1,314	1,646	2,143	2,779	34.5	36.6	39.4	45.1
Sales representatives (including wholesale)	37	70	76	162	5.2	7.3	7.2	12.4
Sales clerks, retail	1,175	1,384	1,465	1,671	48.9	53.7	64.8	70.7
Clerical	4,273	6,263	10,150	14,152	62.3	67.5	73.6	80.3
Bank tellers	28	88	216	458	45.2	69.3	86.1	92.9
Bookkeepers	556	764	1,274	1,740	77.7	83.4	82.1	91.1
Cashiers	187	367	692	1,298	81.7	78.4	84.0	87.9
Office machine operators	116	225	414	677	81.1	73.8	73.5	74.9
Secretaries-typists	1,494	1,917	3,686	4,681	94.6	96.7	96.6	98.6
Shipping-receiving clerks	19	24	59	103	14.3	8.6	14.3	21.3
Craft	236	252	518	737	3.1	2.9	4.9	5.7
Carpenters	4	3	11	16	0.4	0.4	1.3	1.3
Mechanics, including automotive	21	25	49	49	1.2	1.1	2.0	1.4
Printing	35	35	58	101	11.8	11.0	14.8	22.2
Bakers	14	17	32	61	12.2	15.9	29.4	43.6
Decorators and window dressers	14	24	42	94	32.6	46.2	58.3	72.9
Tailors	16	8	22	12	19.8	20.0	31.4	34.3
Upholsterers	5	6	10	12	8.3	10.0	16.4	21.4

See footnote at end of table.

Table 11. Continued.

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Number				Women as percent of all workers in occupation			
	1950	1960	1970	1979	1950	1960	1970	1979
Operatives, except transport	2,995	3,252	4,036	4,353	33.5	34.3	38.4	39.9
Assemblers	N.A.	267	459	688	N.A.	43.7	48.7	53.4
Bottling and canning operatives	N.A.	N.A.	16	17	N.A.	N.A.	34.0	37.8
Clothing ironers and pressers	N.A.	N.A.	137	89	N.A.	N.A.	74.9	76.7
Dressmakers	135	116	92	104	97.1	96.7	94.8	95.4
Laundry and dry cleaning operatives	288	273	105	122	67.7	71.3	62.9	65.9
Sewers and stitchers	N.A.	532	816	772	N.A.	94.0	93.8	95.3
Transport equipment operatives	22	41	134	294	1.0	1.7	4.5	8.1
Bus drivers	4	18	68	163	2.6	9.8	28.5	45.5
Service	3,228	4,418	5,944	8,011	57.3	62.8	60.5	62.4
Private household	1,321	1,586	1,132	1,062	94.9	96.6	96.9	97.6
Food service	839	1,379	1,913	2,943	61.6	70.0	68.8	68.4
Health service	249	488	1,047	1,643	74.6	81.5	88.0	90.4
Personal service	221	326	778	1,369	49.7	57.9	66.5	77.3
Protective service	11	28	59	124	2.0	4.1	6.2	8.8

[1]Includes college and university presidents in 1950.

N.A. = not available.

Table 12.
Women employees on nonagricultural payrolls, selected industries, October, 1970 and 1979

Industry	Number of women (thousands)		Women as percent of total employed	
	1970	1979	1970	1979
Total nonagricultural industries	**26,370**	**37,629**	**37.2**	**41.5**
Private	20,866	30,143	35.9	40.2
Mining	37	94	5.9	9.6
Construction	189	388	5.0	7.8
Manufacturing	5,392	6,576	28.7	31.2
Durable goods	2,209	3,137	20.7	24.6
Nondurable goods	3,183	3,439	39.0	41.2
Food and kindred products	496	536	26.9	30.3
Apparel and other textile products	1,095	1,068	80.9	81.1
Transportation and public utilities	962	1,260	21.2	24.0
Communications	560	619	49.2	46.9
Telephone communications	514	540	54.2	51.2
Radio and television broadcasting	32	61	22.7	31.1
Trucking and warehousing	98	160	8.9	11.4
School buses	N.A.	38	N.A.	46.3
Wholesale and retail trade	6,062	8,798	40.1	43.3
Wholesale trade	937	1,339	23.3	25.6
Retail trade	5,125	7,459	46.1	49.5
Food stores	618	970	35.4	42.0
Eating and drinking places	1,462	2,932	55.8	56.8
Finance insurance and real estate	1,921	2,932	52.5	58.5
Banking	666	1,058	63.5	70.7
Insurance carriers	551	739	53.1	60.5
Real estate	234	343	35.0	36.0
Services	6,303	10,094	54.2	58.4
Personal services	643	608	65.7	67.9
Business services	615	1,267	36.2	43.2
Educational services	458	576	46.9	51.1
Hotels, motels, and tourist courts	357	551	50.3	55.0
Health services	2,521	4,163	81.0	81.5
Other services	1,709	2,929	41.1	47.1
Government	5,504	7,486	43.2	47.5
Federal	700	871	26.3	31.6
State	1,149	1,610	41.8	45.5
State hospitals	N.A.	335	N.A.	60.2
State education	471	703	39.8	47.6
Other State government	678	572	43.3	38.0
Local	3,656	5,005	49.9	52.9
Local government hospitals	N.A.	425	N.A.	79.7
Local education	2,586	3,383	61.9	64.2
Other local government	1,070	1,197	34.0	32.6

N.A. = not available.

Table 13. Self-employed women in nonagricultural industries by age, annual averages, 1970 and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	1970		1979	
	Number of women	Percent distribution	Number of women	Percent distribution
Total employed women	**29,067**	—	**39,793**	—
Self-employed as percent of total employed	4.4	—	4.9	—
Total self-employed	1,288	100.0	1,939	100.0
16 to 19	22	1.7	34	1.8
20 to 24	69	5.4	103	5.3
25 to 34	215	16.7	484	25.0
35 to 44	248	19.3	452	23.3
45 to 54	322	25.0	415	21.4
55 to 64	273	21.2	299	15.4
65 years and over	138	10.7	152	7.8
Median age (years)	47.8	—	42.7	—

Table 14. Women and men not in the labor force by desire for job and reason for nonparticipation, annual averages, 1970 and 1979

Item	1970		1979	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Total not in labor force (thousands)	**41,210**	**13,065**	**41,692**	**16,931**
Do not want a job now (thousands)	38,535	11,863	38,079	15,248
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ill or disabled	4.7	17.2	5.5	16.1
Home responsibilities	82.9	1.7	75.4	1.9
Going to school	7.8	25.8	7.8	19.5
Retired	1.8	44.0	6.4	49.0
Other reasons	2.7	11.3	4.9	13.5
Want a job now (thousands)	2,675	1,200	3,613	1,682
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ill or disabled	10.5	17.3	11.4	19.7
Home responsibilities	33.9	—	34.3	—
Going to school	19.1	46.9	19.7	42.6
Think cannot find job	15.6	18.4	13.1	16.6
Other reasons	20.9	17.3	21.6	21.0

Table 15. Women not in the labor force by age, annual averages, selected years, 1950-79

(Numbers in thousands)

Age	Year			
	1950	1960	1970	1979
Total, 16 years and over:				
Number (in thousands)	**35,881**	**38,343**	**41,214**	**41,692**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
16 to 24	15.6	16.2	18.7	16.5
16 to 19	6.9	8.3	10.0	9.0
20 to 24	8.7	7.9	8.7	7.5
25 to 34	22.2	19.2	16.9	15.2
35 to 44	18.1	18.0	13.9	11.2
45 to 54	15.[illegible]	13.9	13.3	11.7
55 to 64	13.8	13.2	13.3	15.2
65 and over	15.1	19.6	23.9	30.2
Median age (years)	41.7	43.1	45.4	51.1

Part II.

Extent of Work Experience

Today's working women are not casual labor market participants. Considering the fact that the majority have household and child care responsibilities, their job continuity during a year — or work experience — is impressive. About 2 out of 3 working women were employed at least 40 weeks in 1978, and the majority of these women worked full time, or 35 hours or more per week.

Of the nearly 8.2 million women who experienced unemployment during 1978, about 27 percent found jobs after a month or less. Only 6 percent remained jobless the entire year.

Table 16. Work experience of women and men, 1960, 1970, and 1978

Work experience	Women			Men		
	1960[1]	1970	1978	1960[1]	1970	1978
Total: Number (in thousands)	**65,176**	**73,657**	**84,686**	**59,208**	**65,296**	**76,070**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Worked during the year	46.9	52.5	57.1	84.5	84.1	81.4
Did not work during the year	53.1	47.5	42.9	15.5	15.9	18.6
Worked during the year: Number	30,585	38,704	48,373	50,033	54,919	61,917
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked at full-time jobs[2]	67.6	67.8	67.8	86.9	87.6	87.9
40 to 52 weeks	44.6	47.3	50.2	73.5	74.0	74.0
50 to 52 weeks	36.9	40.7	43.7	63.9	66.1	66.3
27 to 39 weeks	6.9	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.2	5.0
1 to 26 weeks	16.0	14.3	12.0	7.7	8.4	9.0
Worked at part-time jobs[3]	32.4	32.1	32.2	13.1	12.4	12.1
40 to 52 weeks	13.2	13.5	14.9	5.7	5.6	5.5
50 to 52 weeks	10.0	10.0	10.9	4.5	4.4	4.0
27 to 39 weeks	3.4	4.0	4.5	1.3	1.4	1.5
1 to 26 weeks	15.8	14.6	12.7	6.1	5.3	5.1

[1]Data include 14- and 15-year olds.
[2]Usually worked 35 hours or more a week in a majority of weeks worked.
[3]Usually worked less than 35 hours a week in a majority of weeks worked.

Table 17. Work experience of women and men by age, 1970 and 1978

Sex and work experience	Total, 16 years and over	16 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 years and over
	1970					
WOMEN						
Total: Number (in thousands)	**73,657**	**16,242**	**12,894**	**11,583**	**12,080**	**20,858**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.00**
Worked during the year	52.5	66.0	56.5	58.5	60.4	31.7
Did not work during the year	47.5	34.0	43.5	41.5	39.6	68.3
Worked during the year: Number	38,704	10,723	7,289	6,772	7,302	6,619
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked at full-time jobs[1]	67.8	61.3	71.4	69.4	74.2	66.0
40 to 52 weeks	47.3	29.4	48.0	53.3	61.3	53.7
50 to 52 weeks	40.7	23.8	40.1	46.0	54.4	47.9
27 to 39 weeks	6.2	7.5	7.7	5.7	4.9	4.5
1 to 26 weeks	14.3	24.4	15.8	10.4	8.3	7.8
Worked at part-time jobs[2]	32.1	38.6	28.6	30.6	25.8	34.1
40 to 52 weeks	13.5	11.2	10.2	15.4	13.7	18.6
50 to 52 weeks	10.0	7.5	7.6	11.6	11.0	13.9
27 to 39 weeks	4.0	4.8	4.0	4.2	3.3	3.4
1 to 26 weeks	14.6	22.6	14.4	11.2	8.7	12.1
	1978					
Total: Number (in thousands)	**84,686**	**18,377**	**17,334**	**12,671**	**11,790**	**24,514**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Worked during the year	57.1	71.8	70.5	68.5	62.9	27.9
Did not work during the year	42.9	28.2	29.5	31.5	37.1	72.1
Worked during the year: Number	48,373	13,210	12,220	8,684	7,420	6,839
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked at full-time jobs[1]	67.8	59.6	74.5	70.4	72.5	63.4
40 to 52 weeks	50.2	33.5	55.9	56.4	61.2	52.0
50 to 52 weeks	43.7	27.1	47.9	49.4	55.7	47.7
27 to 39 weeks	5.7	7.0	6.5	5.0	4.4	4.1
1 to 26 weeks	12.0	19.1	12.1	9.0	6.8	7.3
Worked at part-time jobs[2]	32.2	40.3	25.5	29.6	27.5	36.6
40 to 52 weeks	14.9	13.5	10.8	16.0	16.5	21.7
50 to 52 weeks	10.9	9.4	7.4	12.0	13.1	16.3
27 to 39 weeks	4.5	6.0	3.7	4.5	3.5	4.6
1 to 26 weeks	12.7	20.8	11.1	9.2	7.5	10.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 17. Continued.

Sex and work experience	Total, 16 years and over	16 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 years and over
	1970					
MEN						
Total: Number (in thousands)	**65,296**	**14,662**	11,982	10,713	11,113	16,827
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00
Worked during the year	84.1	79.9	97.0	97.5	95.6	62.6
Did not work during the year	15.9	20.1	3.0	2.5	4.4	37.4
Worked during the year: Number	54,919	11,702	11,624	10,441	10,621	10,532
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked at full-time jobs[1]	87.6	63.8	96.8	98.1	97.6	83.0
40 to 52 weeks	74.0	33.7	86.4	90.5	90.1	72.0
50 to 52 weeks	66.1	27.1	76.1	83.0	82.5	65.1
27 to 39 weeks	5.2	6.7	5.5	4.4	4.2	4.8
1 to 26 weeks	8.4	23.4	5.0	3.1	3.1	6.2
Worked at part-time jobs[2]	12.4	36.1	3.2	1.9	2.4	17.0
40 to 52 weeks	5.6	14.6	1.7	1.0	1.2	9.1
50 to 52 weeks	4.4	11.3	1.3	0.9	1.0	7.2
27 to 39 weeks	1.4	4.0	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.8
1 to 26 weeks	5.3	17.5	1.0	0.6	0.8	6.1
	1978					
Total: Number (in thousands)	76,070	17,636	16,391	11,734	11,017	19,292
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked during the year	81.4	82.2	96.2	96.1	92.7	52.7
Did not work during the year	18.6	17.8	3.8	3.9	7.3	47.3
Worked during the year: Number	61,917	14,501	15,767	11,274	10,215	10,159
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked at full-time jobs[1]	87.9	69.6	95.3	97.1	97.1	83.3
40 to 52 weeks	74.0	41.0	84.4	90.2	89.3	71.6
50 to 52 weeks	66.3	32.7	74.9	82.5	83.1	66.0
27 to 39 weeks	5.0	7.1	5.1	3.8	3.9	4.2
1 to 26 weeks	9.0	21.5	5.7	3.1	3.9	7.5
Worked at part-time jobs[2]	12.1	30.5	4.7	2.9	2.9	16.7
40 to 52 weeks	5.5	11.7	2.7	1.7	1.6	9.4
50 to 52 weeks	4.0	8.5	1.9	1.1	1.2	6.9
27 to 39 weeks	1.5	3.7	0.7	0.6	0.3	1.8
1 to 26 weeks	5.1	15.1	1.3	0.6	1.0	5.5

[1]Usually worked 35 hours or more in a majority of weeks worked.
[2]Usually worked less than 35 hours in a majority of weeks worked.

Table 18. Women with unemployment in 1978 by number of weeks unemployed

Duration of unemployment	Number (thousands)	Percent distribution
Total working or looking for work	**49,683**	**100.0**
With no unemployment during year	41,517	83.6
With unemployment during year	8,166	16.4
Total unemployed	8,166	100.0
Year-round workers unemployed		
1 or 2 weeks	233	2.9
Part-year workers unemployed:		
1 to 4 weeks	2,219	27.2
5 to 14 weeks	2,269	27.8
15 to 26 weeks	1,285	15.7
27 weeks or longer	851	10.4
Did not work but looked for work:		
1 to 4 weeks	515	6.3
5 to 14 weeks	352	4.3
15 to 26 weeks	188	2.3
27 weeks or longer	254	3.1

Table 19. Percent of women employed year round full time in each occupation, 1960, 1970, and 1978

Occupation group	Percent who worked year round full time		
	1960[1]	1970	1978
All occupations	**36.9**	**40.7**	**43.7**
Professional-technical	42.1	54.1	53.6
Managerial-administrative, except farm	62.5	64.8	65.6
Sales	26.3	24.4	25.9
Clerical	50.7	48.4	51.1
Craft	57.2	44.5	49.1
Operatives, including transport	37.6	41.2	44.4
Nonfarm laborers	32.0	33.2	31.1
Service, except private household	30.1	29.5	28.4
Private household	18.6	14.8	11.6
Farm	9.4	13.6	22.4

[1]Data include 14- and 15-year olds.

Table 20.
Women by work experience and reason for less than full-year work, 1960, 1970, and 1978

Item	1960[1]	1970	1978
Total: Number (thousands)	**65,186**	**73,657**	**84,686**
Worked all year (50 to 52 weeks)	14,344	19,611	26,387
Worked part year (1 to 49 weeks)	16,241	19,093	21,986
Did not work at all	34,591	34,953	36,313
Looked for work during year	933	1,049	1,310
Did not look for work during year	33,658	33,904	35,003
Worked part year (percent)	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ill or disabled	12.5	8.1	6.2
Home responsibilities	55.2	48.6	44.7
Going to school	17.9	21.1	21.3
Unemployed[2]	22.3	15.2	17.7
Other reasons	8.9	6.9	10.0
Retired	N.A.	1.3	1.1
Did not work:			
Looked for work (percent)	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ill or disabled	3.0	5.8	4.3
Home responsibilities	19.7	33.6	36.0
Going to school	11.5	21.1	14.7
Unable to find work	62.1	34.7	42.2
Other reasons	3.8	4.8	2.8
Did not look for work (percent)	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ill or disabled	5.2	10.3	11.8
Home responsibilities	80.1	73.8	64.1
Going to school	12.0	8.5	9.0
Think cannot find a job	.1	.1	.3
Other reasons	2.7	7.3	14.6
Retired	N.A.	6.2	4.8

[1]Data include 14- and 15-year olds.
[2]A total of 6,623,000 women working part year experienced some unemployment during 1978, of whom 3,899,000 reported unemployment as the major reason for part-year work.

N.A. = not available.

Part III.

Marital and Family Status

Responding to both the economy's demand for additional workers and the sweeping social and demographic changes over the past several decades, the number of wives in the labor force has more than tripled. By March 1979, practically 50 percent of all wives were working or looking for work compared with 41 percent in 1970 and just 22 percent in 1950. Contributing strongly to this trend during the 1970's was the growth in labor force participation of mothers with preschool children. The participation rate for wives with children under 6 increased from 30 percent in 1970 to 43 percent in 1979. As a result, the proportion of children with working mothers also rose, from 39 percent to more than 50 percent.

The great majority of employed women—75 percent—usually work full time (35 hours or more a week). Though the proportion working full time in 1979 varied by marital and family status, 63 percent of employed married women with children under age 3 worked full time.

In recent years more and more women have been postponing marriage, and marital break-up has become more widespread. Consequently, the number of never-married and divorced women in the labor force has risen rapidly. In 1979, about 1 of every 9 women in the work force—5 million in all—was either a divorced, separated, widowed, or never-married woman maintaining her own family.

Table 21. Women by labor force and marital status, selected years, 1950-79

Item	April 1950	March 1960	March 1970	March 1979
POPULATION				
Number (thousands)				
Total, 16 years and over	**54,988**	**61,911**	**73,261**	**84,686**
Never married	9,305	9,603	13,141	17,564
Married, husband present	35,574	40,176	45,055	48,239
Married, husband absent	2,001	2,362	2,730	3,075
Divorced	1,373	1,707	2,695	5,359
Widowed	6,735	8,063	9,640	10,450
Percent distribution				
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Never married	16.9	15.5	17.9	20.7
Married, husband present	64.7	64.9	61.5	57.0
Married, husband absent	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.6
Divorced	2.5	2.8	3.7	6.3
Widowed	12.2	13.0	13.2	12.3
LABOR FORCE				
Number (thousands)				
Total	**15,560**	**21,329**	**31,233**	**42,971**
Never married	4,304	4,233	6,965	11,006
Married, husband present	7,682	12,244	18,377	23,832
Married, husband absent	933	1,224	1,422	1,808
Divorced	*2,641	1,222	1,927	3,967
Widowed		2,406	2,542	2,358
Percent distribution				
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Never married	27.7	19.8	22.3	25.6
Married, husband present	49.4	57.4	58.8	55.5
Married, husband absent	6.0	5.7	4.6	4.2
Divorced	*17.0	5.7	6.2	9.2
Widowed		11.3	8.1	5.5
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE				
Total	**28.3**	**34.5**	**42.6**	**50.7**
Never married	46.3	44.1	53.0	62.7
Married, husband present	21.6	30.5	40.8	49.4
Married, husband absent	46.6	51.8	52.1	58.8
Divorced	*32.6	71.6	71.5	74.0
Widowed		29.8	26.4	22.6

*Data for divorced and widowed not available separately.

Table 22. Labor force participation rates of women by age and marital status, March 1979

Age	Participation rate (Percent of population in labor force)					
	All women	Never married	Married, husband present	Married, husband absent	Divorced	Widowed
Total, 16 years and over	**50.7**	**62.7**	**49.4**	**58.8**	**74.0**	**22.6**
16 to 19	50.9	50.7	51.2	54.1	(1)	(1)
20 to 24	68.7	74.6	61.2	64.3	85.8	(1)
25 to 34	63.5	83.2	57.0	65.5	81.7	54.4
35 to 44	63.6	77.1	60.3	63.2	82.7	52.9
45 to 54	58.6	74.0	54.5	62.1	78.8	66.0
55 to 64	42.7	61.1	37.4	48.3	64.9	49.0
65 and over	8.7	14.9	7.9	16.0	17.1	7.8

[1]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000.

Table 23. Occupations of employed women by marital status, March, 1970 and 1979

Occupation	Never married		Married, husband present		Married, husband absent	
	1970	1979	1970	1979	1970	1979
Total, all occupations:						
Number (in thousands)	**6,490**	**9,940**	**17,665**	**22,620**	**1,339**	**1,631**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	17.6	16.5	15.5	17.7	8.6	13.6
Managerial-administrative, except farm	2.5	4.3	4.6	6.7	2.0	4.4
Sales	6.6	7.8	7.1	6.5	3.9	4.8
Clerical	41.2	36.3	33.6	35.8	26.7	30.9
Craft	0.6	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.0	2.2
Operatives, including transport	8.5	8.3	16.4	11.8	20.1	14.2
Nonfarm laborers	0.5	1.4	0.3	1.1	0.7	1.3
Service	21.8	23.0	19.4	17.5	36.2	28.4
Private household	7.3	3.3	3.5	2.0	10.1	5.3
All other service	14.7	19.7	15.9	15.5	26.1	23.1
Farm	0.4	0.8	1.8	1.2	0.7	0.2

	Divorced		Widowed	
	1970	1979	1970	1979
Total, all occupations:				
Number (in thousands)	**1,825**	**3,723**	**2,475**	**2,235**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	12.7	14.9	9.9	9.2
Managerial-administrative, except farm	5.5	8.4	7.4	8.3
Sales	4.5	5.0	7.7	7.5
Clerical	34.7	36.5	23.2	27.7
Craft	0.9	1.9	1.1	1.9
Operatives, including transport	15.8	12.6	15.4	14.1
Nonfarm laborers	0.5	1.2	0.6	0.4
Service	25.2	19.2	32.8	29.8
Private household	5.5	1.9	12.7	7.0
All other service	19.7	17.3	20.1	22.8
Farm	0.2	0.3	1.9	1.2

Table 24. Work experience of married women, husband present, and never-married women, 1960, 1970, and 1978

(Numbers in thousands)

Marital status and work experience	1960[1]	1970	1978
Married women, husband present, total	**40,652**	**45,560**	**48,239**
Worked during year: Number	17,625	23,052	27,242
Percent	43.4	50.6	56.5
Worked during year	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time[2]	65.7	68.4	67.5
40 to 52 weeks	N.A.	47.3	50.5
50 to 52 weeks	33.0	40.3	43.4
27 to 39 weeks	N.A.	6.9	6.0
1 to 26 weeks	16.9	14.2	11.0
Part time[3]	34.3	31.6	32.5
40 to 52 weeks	N.A.	14.5	16.1
1 to 39 weeks	N.A.	17.1	16.4
Never-married women, total	**12,522**	**13,350**	**17,564**
Worked during year: Number	7,225	8,910	12,429
Percent	57.7	66.7	70.8
Worked during year	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time[2]	65.5	60.3	61.6
40 to 52 weeks	N.A.	38.4	41.1
50 to 52 weeks	38.6	33.6	36.2
27 to 39 weeks	N.A.	4.5	5.4
1 to 26 weeks	16.7	17.5	15.2
Part time[3]	34.5	39.7	38.4
40 to 52 weeks	N.A.	12.6	14.1
1 to 39 weeks	N.A.	27.0	24.2

[1]Data include 14- and 15-year olds.
[2]Usually worked 35 hours or more in a majority of weeks worked.
[3]Usually worked less than 35 hours in a majority of weeks worked.

N.A. = not available.

Table 25. Birth rates and fertility rates by race, selected years, 1920-79

Year	Birth rate[1]			Fertility rate[2]		
	Total	White	Black and other races	Total	White	Black and other races
1920	27.7	26.9	35.0	117.9	115.4	137.5
1925	25.1	24.1	34.2	106.6	103.3	134.0
1930	21.3	20.6	27.5	89.2	87.1	105.9
1935	18.7	17.9	25.8	77.2	74.5	98.4
1940	19.4	18.6	26.7	72.9	77.1	102.4
1945	20.4	19.7	26.5	85.9	83.4	106.0
1950	24.1	23.0	33.3	106.2	102.3	137.3
1955	25.0	23.8	34.7	118.5	113.8	155.3
1957	25.3	24.0	35.3	122.9	117.7	163.0
1960	23.7	22.7	32.1	118.0	113.2	153.6
1965	19.4	18.3	27.6	96.6	91.4	133.9
1970	18.4	17.4	25.1	87.9	84.1	113.0
1971	17.2	16.2	24.7	81.8	77.5	109.5
1972	15.6	14.6	22.9	73.4	69.2	100.3
1973	14.9	13.9	21.9	69.2	65.3	94.3
1974	14.9	14.0	21.4	68.4	64.7	91.0
1975	14.8	13.8	21.2	66.7	63.0	89.3
1976	14.8	13.8	21.1	65.8	62.2	87.6
1977	15.4	14.4	21.9	67.8	64.0	89.9
1978[p]	15.3	N.A.	N.A.	66.4	N.A.	N.A.
1979[3]	15.8	N.A.	N.A.	66.4	N.A.	N.A.

p = provisional

N.A. = not available

[1]Births per 1,000 population.
[2]Births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 years.
[3]Twelve months ending with December 1979.

Table 26. Labor force participation rates of married women, husband present, by presence and age of own children, 1950-79

Year[1]	Participation rate (Percent of population in labor force)				
	Total	With no children under 18 years	With children under 18 years		
			Total	6 to 17 years, none younger	Under 6 years
1950	23.8	30.3	18.4	28.3	11.9
1951	25.2	31.0	20.5	30.3	14.0
1952	25.3	30.9	20.7	31.1	13.9
1953	26.3	31.2	22.4	32.2	15.5
1954	26.6	31.6	22.7	33.2	14.9
1955	27.7	32.7	24.0	34.7	16.2
1956	29.0	35.3	24.5	36.4	15.9
1957	29.6	35.6	25.3	36.6	17.0
1958	30.2	35.4	26.5	37.6	18.2
1959	30.9	35.2	27.9	39.8	18.7
1960	30.5	34.7	27.6	39.0	18.6
1961	32.7	37.3	29.6	41.7	20.0
1962	32.7	36.1	30.3	41.8	21.3
1963	33.7	37.4	31.2	41.5	22.5
1964	34.4	37.8	32.0	43.0	22.7
1965	34.7	38.3	32.2	42.7	23.3
1966	35.4	38.4	33.2	43.7	24.2
1967	36.8	38.9	35.3	45.0	26.5
1968	38.3	40.1	36.9	46.9	27.6
1969	39.6	41.0	38.6	48.6	28.5
1970	40.8	42.2	39.7	49.2	30.3
1971	40.8	42.1	39.7	49.4	29.6
1972	41.5	42.7	40.5	50.2	30.1
1973	42.2	42.8	41.7	50.1	32.7
1974	43.0	43.0	43.1	51.2	34.4
1975	44.4	43.9	44.9	52.3	36.6
1976	45.0	43.8	46.1	53.7	37.4
1977	46.6	44.9	48.2	55.6	39.3
1978	47.6	44.7	50.2	57.2	41.6
1979	49.4	46.7	51.9	59.1	43.2

[1]Data were collected in April of 1951-55 and March of all other years.

NOTE: Children are defined as "own" children of the women and include never-married sons and daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Table 27. Women by marital and labor force status and presence and age of own children, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Marital and labor force status	Total	With no children under 18 years	With children under 18 years				
			Total	6 to 17 years only		Under 6 years	
				14 to 17 years, none younger	6 to 13 years	3 to 5 years, none younger	Under 3 years
Women, total	**84,686**	**54,204**	**30,482**	**5,392**	**11,772**	**5,312**	**8,006**
In labor force	**42,971**	**26,355**	**16,616**	**3,288**	**7,281**	**2,775**	**3,272**
Labor force participation rate	**50.7**	**48.6**	**54.5**	**61.0**	**61.9**	**52.2**	**40.9**
Unemployment rate	**6.6**	**6.1**	**7.3**	**4.7**	**6.1**	**8.2**	**11.6**
Never married	17,564	16,651	913	21	279	228	385
In labor force	11,006	10,513	493	10	180	121	182
Labor force participation rate	62.7	63.1	54.0	(1)	64.5	53.0	47.2
Unemployment rate	9.7	9.2	20.7	—	20.0	17.2	25.0
Married, husband present	48,239	23,474	24,765	4,333	9,323	4,227	6,883
In labor force	23,832	10,974	12,858	2,534	5,529	2,089	2,706
Labor force participation rate	49.4	46.7	51.9	58.5	59.3	49.4	39.3
Unemployment rate	5.1	3.7	6.2	3.9	5.3	7.2	9.5
Married, husband absent	3,075	1,396	1,679	235	674	355	414
In labor force	1,808	807	1,001	145	447	212	197
Labor force participation rate	58.8	57.8	59.6	61.7	66.3	59.5	47.5
Unemployment rate	9.8	6.3	12.6	5.7	9.8	12.1	24.7
Widowed	10,450	9,756	694	305	300	66	23
In labor force	2,358	2,015	344	164	148	27	6
Labor force participation rate	22.6	20.7	49.5	53.6	49.3	(1)	(1)
Unemployment rate	5.2	4.6	9.0	10.9	5.2	(1)	(1)
Divorced	5,359	2,928	2,431	498	1,196	436	300
In labor force	3,967	2,047	1,920	435	977	327	181
Labor force participation rate	74.0	69.9	79.0	87.4	81.7	74.9	60.3
Unemployment rate	6.1	4.8	7.6	6.4	6.6	8.4	14.0

[1]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000.

See note on table 26.

Table 28. Employed women by full- or part-time status, marital status, and presence and age of own children, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	Total	With no children under 18 years	With children under 18 years				
			Total	6 to 17 years only		Under 6 years	
				14 to 17 years, none younger	6 to 13 years	3 to 5 years, none younger	Under 3 years
Total, employed women	**40,150**	**24,741**	**15,409**	**3,135**	**6,834**	**2,548**	**2,892**
Worked full time	**28,805**	**17,994**	**10,810**	**2,339**	**4,793**	**1,786**	**1,891**
Worked part time	**11,346**	**6,746**	**4,599**	**796**	**2,041**	**762**	**1,001**
Never married, total	9,940	9,549	391	10	144	100	136
Worked full time	6,562	6,252	309	9	120	87	94
Worked part time	3,379	3,297	82	1	24	13	43
Married, husband present, total	22,620	10,564	12,056	2,435	5,234	1,939	2,448
Worked full time	16,066	8,070	7,995	1,743	3,441	1,275	1,536
Worked part time	6,555	2,494	4,061	692	1,793	664	913
Married, husband absent, total	1,631	757	875	137	404	186	148
Worked full time	1,361	638	723	114	330	153	125
Worked part time	270	119	151	22	73	33	23
Divorced, total	3,723	1,949	1,775	407	913	299	156
Worked full time	3,292	1,734	1,557	367	801	256	133
Worked part time	432	214	217	40	112	43	23
Widowed, total	2,235	1,922	313	146	140	24	3
Worked full time	1,525	1,299	225	106	101	15	3
Worked part time	710	623	86	40	39	9	—

NOTE: Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 or more hours per week; part-time workers are those who usually work 1 to 34 hours per week.

See note on table 26.

Table 29. Families by type, selected years, 1940-79

(Numbers in thousands)

Year[1]	All families	Married-couple families[2]	Other families[3]		
			Maintained by men[2]	Maintained by women	
				Total	As percent of all families
1940	32,166	26,971	1,579	3,616	11.2
1947	35,794	31,211	1,186	3,397	9.5
1950	39,303	34,440	1,184	3,679	9.4
1955	41,951	36,378	1,339	4,234	10.1
1960	45,062	39,293	1,275	4,494	10.0
1965	47,836	41,649	1,181	5,006	10.5
1970	51,227	44,415	1,239	5,573	10.9
1971	51,947	44,735	1,262	5,950	11.5
1972	53,280	45,743	1,353	6,184	11.6
1973	54,361	46,308	1,453	6,600	12.1
1974	55,041	46,810	1,433	6,798	12.4
1975	55,699	47,069	1,400	7,230	13.0
1976	56,244	47,318	1,444	7,482	13.3
1977	56,709	47,497	1,499	7,713	13.6
1978	57,215	47,385	1,594	8,236	14.4
1979	57,804	47,692	1,654	8,458	14.6

[1]Data were collected in April of 1940, 1947, and 1955 and March of all other years.
[2]Includes men in Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.
[3]Never-married, widowed, divorced or separated persons.

Table 30.
Number of own children by age of children, type of family, and labor force status of mother, March, 1970, 1975, and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	Children under 18 years			Children 6 to 17 years			Children under 6 years		
	1970	1975	1979	1970	1975	1979	1970	1975	1979
Total children	**65,755**	**62,770**	**58,537**	**46,149**	**44,636**	**41,556**	**19,606**	**18,134**	**16,981**
Mother in labor force	**25,554**	**27,650**	**30,105**	**19,954**	**21,138**	**22,940**	**5,590**	**6,512**	**7,166**
Mother not in labor force	**39,550**	**34,332**	**27,503**	**25,627**	**22,800**	**17,849**	**13,923**	**11,532**	**9,654**
Children in married-couple families	58,399	52,813	47,786	40,479	37,081	33,347	17,920	15,732	14,439
Mother in labor force	21,982	22,637	24,063	17,035	17,206	18,161	4,947	5,431	5,902
Mother not in labor force	36,417	30,176	23,724	23,444	19,875	15,186	12,973	10,302	8,538
Children in families maintained by women[1]	6,695	9,168	9,822	5,102	6,856	7,442	1,593	2,312	2,380
Mother in labor force	3,562	5,013	6,043	2,919	3,931	4,779	643	1,081	1,264
Mother not in labor force	3,133	4,155	3,779	2,183	2,925	2,663	950	1,230	1,116
Children in families maintained by men[1]	661	788	929	568	699	768	93	90	161

[1]Widowed; divorced; married, spouse absent; and never-married persons.

NOTE: Children are defined as "own" children of the family and include never-married sons and daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Table 31. Number of own children by age of children, type of family, and employment status of parents, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	Children under 18 years				
	Total	Children 6 to 17 years			Under 6 years
		Total	14 to 17 years	6 to 13 years	
ALL CHILDREN					
Total	**58,537**	**41,556**	**15,188**	**26,368**	**16,981**
Mother in labor force	30,105	22,940	8,738	14,201	7,166
Employed	27,875	21,457	8,246	13,210	6,419
Unemployed	2,230	1,483	492	991	747
Mother not in labor force	27,503	17,849	6,083	11,766	9,654
CHILDREN IN MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES					
Total	**47,786**	**33,347**	**12,009**	**21,338**	**14,439**
Mother in labor force	24,063	18,161	6,892	11,269	5,902
Employed	22,533	17,166	6,569	10,597	5,367
Unemployed	1,530	995	323	672	535
Mother not in labor force	23,724	15,186	5,117	10,069	8,538
Father in civilian labor force	44,926	31,256	11,106	20,150	13,670
Mother in labor force	22,851	17,238	6,499	10,739	5,614
Employed	21,445	16,313	6,201	10,112	5,132
Unemployed	1,406	925	298	626	482
Mother not in labor force	22,075	14,018	4,607	9,411	8,057
Father employed	43,389	30,275	10,776	19,500	13,114
Mother in labor force	22,083	16,691	6,286	10,405	5,392
Employed	20,809	15,841	6,016	9,825	4,968
Unemployed	1,274	850	269	581	424
Mother not in labor force	21,306	13,584	4,490	9,094	7,722
Father unemployed	1,537	981	330	651	556
Mother in labor force	768	547	213	333	222
Employed	636	472	184	287	164
Unemployed	132	75	29	46	57
Mother not in labor force	769	434	117	317	335
Father not in labor force	1,944	1,563	771	791	381
Mother in labor force	769	633	314	319	136
Employed	698	586	299	287	112
Unemployed	71	47	15	32	24
Mother not in labor force	1,175	930	457	472	245
Father in Armed Forces	916	528	131	396	388
Mother in labor force	442	290	79	211	152
Employed	390	267	69	198	123
Unemployed	52	23	10	13	29
Mother not in labor force	474	238	53	185	236

See footnote at end of table.

Table 31. Continued.

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	Children under 18 years				
	Total	Children 6 to 17 years			Under 6 years
		Total	14 to 17 years	6 to 13 years	
CHILDREN IN OTHER FAMILIES					
In families maintained by women[1]	**9,822**	**7,442**	**2,812**	**4,629**	**2,380**
Mother in labor force	6,043	4,779	1,846	2,932	1,264
Employed	5,343	4,291	1,677	2,613	1,052
Unemployed	700	488	169	319	212
Mother not in labor force	3,779	2,663	966	1,697	1,116
In families maintained by men[1]	**929**	**768**	**366**	**401**	**161**

[1]Widowed; divorced; married, spouse absent; and never-married persons.

See note on table 30.

Table 32. Women maintaining families by age and marital status, March, 1960, 1970, and 1979

Age and marital status	Number (thousands)			Percent distribution		
	1960[1]	1970	1979	1960[1]	1970	1979
AGE						
Total, 16 years and over	**4,494**	**5,573**	**8,458**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Under 25	180	437	795	4.0	7.8	9.4
25 to 34	620	919	2,131	13.8	16.5	25.2
35 to 44	921	1,075	1,852	20.5	19.3	21.9
45 to 54	948	1,115	1,522	21.1	20.0	18.0
55 to 64	782	917	964	17.4	16.4	11.4
65 and over	1,043	1,115	1,193	23.2	20.0	14.1
Median age	50.5	48.2	42.0	—	—	—
MARITAL STATUS						
Total, women maintaining families	**4,494**	**5,573**	**8,458**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Never married	521	610	1,412	11.6	10.9	16.7
Married, husband absent	980	1,324	1,768	21.8	23.7	20.9
Divorced	750	1,258	2,808	16.7	22.5	33.2
Widowed	2,243	2,389	2,470	49.9	42.8	29.2

[1]Data include 14- and 15-year olds.

Table 33.
Labor force participation rates and unemployment rates of women maintaining families by age, March, 1970 and 1979

Age	1970		1979	
	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate
Total, 16 years and over	**52.9**	**5.6**	**59.5**	**8.4**
16 to 24	51.6	10.8	60.4	21.6
25 to 34	60.9	6.6	70.0	9.5
35 to 44	67.1	6.7	71.8	7.5
45 to 54	70.4	4.6	70.9	4.2
55 to 64	58.5	3.2	54.1	5.4
65 and over	11.1	2.4	11.5	4.3

Table 34.
Labor force status of women and men maintaining families, by presence and age of children under 18, March, 1970 and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Presence and age of children	March 1970			March 1979		
	Population	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Population	Labor force	Labor force participation rate
Women maintaining families	5,573	2,950	52.9	8,456	5,033	59.5
With children under 18 years	2,924	1,736	59.4	5,288	3,486	65.9
With children 6-17 years only	1,813	1,215	67.0	3,362	2,406	71.6
With children under 6 years	1,111	521	46.9	1,926	1,080	56.1
With no children under 18	2,649	1,214	45.8	3,168	1,547	48.8
Men[1] maintaining families	1,239	893	72.1	1,654	1,218	74.2
With children under 18 years	333	304	91.3	569	496	87.1
With children 6-17 years only	262	237	90.5	435	375	86.2
With children 6 years	71	67	(2)	134	121	90.3
With no children under 18	906	589	65.0	1,085	722	66.5

[1]Population includes a few male members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.

[2]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000.

See note on table 30.

Table 35.
Labor force status of women maintaining families by marital status and presence of children, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Labor force status	Women maintaining families, total	Never married	Married, husband absent	Divorced	Widowed
Total					
Population	8,458	1,412	1,768	2,808	2,470
Labor force	5,033	827	1,071	2,202	934
Labor force participation rate	59.5	58.6	60.6	78.4	37.8
Unemployment rate	8.4	13.8	10.6	6.7	5.5
With no children under 18					
Population	3,170	514	296	573	1,786
Labor force	1,547	342	182	428	595
Labor force participation rate	48.8	66.5	61.5	74.7	33.3
Unemployment rate	3.7	3.5	4.4	3.5	3.9
With children under 18					
Population	5,288	902	1,473	2,234	679
Labor force	3,486	485	889	1,773	338
Labor force participation rate	65.9	53.8	60.4	79.4	49.8
Unemployment rate	10.5	21.0	11.9	7.4	8.0

See note on table 30.

Table 36. Occupations of employed women maintaining families by marital status, March 1979

Occupation	Total	Never married	Married, husband absent	Divorced	Widowed
Total employed: Number (in thousands)	**4,608**	**713**	**958**	**2,055**	**883**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	13.1	11.8	13.3	14.6	10.3
Managerial-administrative, except farm	6.6	5.8	4.3	7.6	7.3
Sales	4.6	2.6	5.3	5.0	4.7
Clerical	34.1	35.4	29.4	37.2	30.7
Craft	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.2	1.3
Operatives, except transport	14.3	15.5	14.0	13.0	16.7
Transport equipment operatives	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.2
Nonfarm laborers	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.6	0.1
Service, total	23.3	24.1	29.6	18.1	28.0
Private household	2.9	3.5	5.0	0.8	5.2
All other service	20.4	20.6	24.6	17.3	22.8
Farm	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.6

Part IV.

School Enrollment and Education

School enrollment status and years of school completed by women are directly related to labor force activity. That is, on average, the more years of school completed, the higher the labor force participation rate. In 1979, for example, labor force rates were higher for young women who recently completed high school than for those who had dropped out of school — 79 percent and 55 percent, respectively. Also, the unemployment rate of school dropouts, at 31 percent, was about double the rate for high school graduates.

In 1979, about 40 percent of the women and 45 percent of the men 16 to 24 years old were enrolled in school. Moreover, of women and men who had graduated from high school in the previous year, similar proportions were enrolled in college. Also, on average, working women had completed about the same number of years of school as men — 12.6 years in 1979.

The proportion of working women 25 years old and over with a college education was 17 percent in 1979 compared with 23 percent for the men. This difference is partly due to the fact that women were somewhat less likely to continue on to college; the education of 45 percent of working women in this age group stopped with high school graduation compared with 35 percent for the men.

Table 37. School enrollment status of women and men 16 to 24 years old in the labor force, selected years, October, 1960-79

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Women				Men			
	Enrolled in school		Not enrolled in school		Enrolled in school		Not enrolled in school	
	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Labor force	Labor force participation rate
October of:								
1960	883	26.0	3,765	50.2	1,591	36.4	5,097	95.0
1965	1,452	28.9	4,602	54.1	2,515	39.8	5,504	94.1
1970	2,354	38.0	5,881	60.0	3,181	42.9	6,288	91.9
1975	3,130	43.5	6,956	65.9	3,598	44.5	8,149	92.2
1979	3,538	47.8	7,889	71.6	3,803	48.4	9,110	92.5

Table 38.
School enrollment status of women and men 16 to 34 years old in the labor force by age, October, 1970 and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and age	Enrolled in school				Not enrolled in school			
	1970		1979		1970		1979	
	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Labor force	Labor force participation rate
Women, 16 to 34 years	**2,630**	**39.4**	**4,509**	**51.3**	**11,430**	**51.7**	**18,467**	**67.6**
16 to 19	1,700	34.8	2,367	44.3	1,521	59.8	2,019	70.3
20 to 24	654	50.5	1,172	56.9	4,360	60.0	5,869	72.0
25 to 34	276	57.5	971	70.1	5,549	45.2	10,578	64.9
Men, 16 to 34 years	**3,993**	**47.5**	**4,947**	**53.5**	**16,875**	**95.4**	**23,987**	**95.3**
16 to 19	2,125	39.7	2,516	44.7	1,580	84.7	2,201	87.1
20 to 24	1,056	51.2	1,286	57.7	4,708	94.6	6,910	94.4
25 to 34	812	81.6	1,144	82.4	10,587	97.6	14,877	97.1

Table 39.
Percent of recent high school graduates enrolled in college by sex, selected years, October, 1960-79

Year	Percent high school graduates	
	Women	Men
October of:		
1960	38	54
1965	45	57
1970	49	55
1975	49	53
1978	49	51
1979	48	50

Table 40. Employment status of women and men 16 to 34 years old enrolled in school by age and type of school, October 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and type of school	Population	Labor force			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	
				Total	Percent of labor force
WOMEN					
Total enrolled in school 16 to 34 years old	**8,788**	**4,510**	**4,018**	**492**	**10.9**
Elementary or high school	3,804	1,672	1,378	294	17.6
16 and 17 years	3,340	1,464	1,211	253	17.3
18 and 19 years	316	141	109	32	22.7
20 to 24 years	82	38	33	5	(1)
25 to 34 years	66	29	25	4	(1)
College, full-time[2]	3,368	1,466	1,323	143	9.8
16 to 19 years	1,544	643	574	70	10.9
20 to 24 years	1,460	669	612	55	8.2
20 and 21 years	980	438	396	41	9.4
22 to 24 years	480	231	216	14	6.1
25 to 34 years	364	154	137	18	11.7
College, part-time	1,616	1,372	1,317	55	4.0
16 to 19 years	140	118	112	7	5.9
20 to 24 years	519	465	441	24	5.2
20 and 21 years	181	156	141	15	9.6
22 to 24 years	338	309	300	9	2.9
25 to 34 years	957	789	764	24	3.0
MEN					
Total enrolled in school 16 to 34 years old	**9,249**	**4,946**	**4,413**	**535**	**10.8**
Elementary or high school	4,265	2,014	1,692	322	16.0
16 and 17 years	3,638	1,672	1,410	262	15.7
18 and 19 years	533	268	218	50	18.7
20 to 24 years	62	45	40	5	(1)
25 to 34 years	32	29	24	5	(1)
College, full-time[2]	3,633	1,632	1,451	183	11.2
16 to 19 years	1,337	468	405	63	13.5
20 to 24 years	1,738	827	723	106	12.8
20 and 21 years	1,046	457	407	51	11.2
22 to 24 years	692	370	316	55	14.9
25 to 34 years	558	337	323	14	4.2
College, part-time	1,351	1,300	1,270	30	2.3
16 to 19 years	123	107	103	4	3.7
20 to 24 years	430	414	398	16	3.9
20 and 21 years	146	137	131	6	4.4
22 to 24 years	284	277	267	10	3.6
25 to 34 years	798	779	769	10	1.3

[1]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000.

[2]Students attending 12 hours or more of college classes during the average school week were classified as full-time students.

Table 41. Employment status of women and men 16 to 24 years old, not enrolled in college, who were high school graduates or school dropouts in 1979, October 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and school status	Population	Labor force					Not in labor force
		Total	Percent of population	Employed	Unemployed		
					Total	Percent of labor force	
Women, total	**1,096**	**841**	**76.7**	**658**	**183**	**21.8**	**255**
High school graduates	870	716	82.3	580	136	19.0	154
School dropouts	226	125	55.3	78	47	37.6	101
Men, total	**967**	**856**	**88.5**	**729**	**127**	**14.8**	**111**
High school graduates	731	672	91.9	579	93	13.8	59
School dropouts	236	184	78.0	150	34	18.5	52

Table 42. Employment status of women and men 16 to 24 years old, not enrolled in school, by years of school completed, October 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and last year of school completed	Population	Labor force			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	
				Total	Percent of labor force
WOMEN					
Total not enrolled in school	11,022	7,889	6,914	975	12.4
School dropouts, total	2,614	1,264	952	312	24.7
Completed 8 years of school or less	514	213	166	47	22.1
Completed 1 to 3 years of high school	2,073	1,051	786	265	25.2
High school graduates:					
Graduated from high school	8,407	6,625	5,962	663	10.0
Completed 4 years of high school only	5,935	4,472	3,944	528	11.8
Completed 1 or more years of college	2,472	2,153	2,018	135	6.3
Completed 1 to 3 years of college	1,652	1,387	1,288	99	7.1
Completed 4 years or more college	820	766	730	36	4.7
MEN					
Total not enrolled in school	**9,848**	**9,112**	**8,250**	**862**	**9.5**
School dropouts, total	2,650	2,248	1,892	356	15.8
Completed 8 years of school or less	650	500	419	81	16.2
Completed 1 to 3 years of high school	2,000	1,748	1,473	275	15.7
High school graduates:					
Graduated from high school	7,197	6,863	6,359	504	7.3
Completed 4 years of high school only	5,159	4,910	4,516	394	8.0
Completed 1 or more years of college	2,038	1,953	1,843	110	5.6
Completed 1 to 3 years of college	1,365	1,296	1,221	75	5.8
Completed 4 years or more college	673	657	622	35	5.3

Table 43.
Educational attainment of women and men in the labor force, March, 1965-79

Year	Total		Less than 4 years of high school[1]	4 years of high school only	1 to 3 years of college	4 years or more of college	Median years of school completed
	Number (thousands)	Percent					
WOMEN							
1965	24,871	100.0	37.7	41.9	10.4	10.0	12.3
1966	25,662	100.0	36.2	43.0	11.0	9.9	12.3
1967	26,647	100.0	35.4	42.9	11.8	9.9	12.3
1968	27,846	100.0	33.6	43.7	12.3	10.5	12.4
1969	28,891	100.0	32.2	45.0	12.4	10.4	12.4
1970	30,064	100.0	30.6	45.5	13.2	10.7	12.4
1971	30,478	100.0	29.3	45.4	13.9	11.4	12.5
1972[2]	32,933	100.0	30.8	44.7	13.2	11.4	12.4
1973	33,905	100.0	29.2	45.2	13.8	12.0	12.5
1974	35,321	100.0	27.8	44.2	15.2	12.8	12.5
1975	36,496	100.0	26.6	44.8	15.3	13.2	12.5
1976	37,817	100.0	25.5	44.6	15.9	14.0	12.6
1977	39,374	100.0	24.8	44.6	16.3	14.4	12.6
1978	40,971	100.0	23.3	44.6	17.1	14.3	12.6
1979	42,971	100.0	22.7	44.6	17.8	14.9	12.6
MEN							
1965	46,258	100.0	45.1	32.0	10.5	12.4	12.2
1966	46,356	100.0	43.8	32.6	10.7	12.8	12.2
1967	46,571	100.0	42.2	32.9	11.7	13.2	12.2
1968	47,255	100.0	40.6	33.8	12.2	13.6	12.3
1969	47,862	100.0	38.9	34.4	12.6	13.9	12.3
1970	48,891	100.0	37.3	35.1	13.5	14.2	12.4
1971	49,439	100.0	35.4	35.7	14.0	14.9	12.4
1972[2]	52,477	100.0	36.2	35.0	13.8	15.0	12.4
1973	53,420	100.0	34.1	35.8	14.5	15.6	12.4
1974	54,312	100.0	32.7	36.0	14.9	16.4	12.5
1975	54,577	100.0	30.9	36.3	15.5	17.3	12.5
1976	55,246	100.0	29.3	36.5	16.0	18.2	12.6
1977	56,392	100.0	29.0	36.0	16.4	18.7	12.6
1978	57,466	100.0	28.2	36.0	17.0	18.8	12.6
1979	58,608	100.0	26.4	36.7	17.3	19.6	12.6

[1]Includes persons reporting no school year completed.
[2]Beginning in 1972 data relate to persons 16 and over; in prior years, data relate to persons 18 and over.

Table 44. Labor force and marital status of women by years of school completed, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	8 years or less (including none)	High school		College	
		1 to 3 years	4 years	1 to 3 years	4 years or more
Women, total	**12,597**	**16,163**	**33,565**	**12,805**	**9,555**
In labor force	**2,922**	**6,826**	**19,157**	**7,653**	**6,413**
Labor force participation rate	**23.2**	**42.2**	**57.1**	**59.8**	**67.1**
Unemployment rate	**9.2**	**12.7**	**6.1**	**4.3**	**3.0**
Never married, total	1,139	5,529	5,424	3,375	2,097
In labor force	361	2,563	4,083	2,249	1,750
Labor force participation rate	31.7	46.4	75.3	66.6	83.4
Unemployment rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Married, husband present, total	5,965	7,072	21,996	7,155	6,051
In labor force	1,617	2,882	11,512	4,001	3,821
Labor force participation rate	27.1	40.7	52.3	55.9	63.1
Unemployment rate	N.A.	N.A.	5.0	3.3	2.7
Married, husband absent, total	600	764	1,158	357	197
In labor force	201	361	819	262	165
Labor force participation rate	33.6	47.2	70.8	73.3	83.9
Unemployment rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Divorced, total	591	952	2,209	1,009	598
In labor force	248	574	1,786	847	512
Labor force participation rate	41.9	60.2	80.9	83.9	85.7
Unemployment rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Widowed, total	4,302	1,847	2,779	909	613
In labor force	495	447	956	295	165
Labor force participation rate	11.5	24.2	34.4	32.4	27.0
Unemployment rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

N.A. = not available.

Table 45. Occupational distribution of employed women by years of school completed, March 1979

Occupation	Less than 4 years of high school	4 years of high school only	1 to 3 years of college	4 years or more of college
Total employed: Number (in thousands)	**8,609**	**17,992**	**7,326**	**6,223**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	1.8	5.9	18.7	64.8
Managerial-administrative, except farm	2.9	6.1	7.8	9.5
Sales	6.9	7.1	7.8	4.1
Clerical	17.2	46.8	45.3	15.6
Craft	2.6	1.8	1.4	0.8
Operatives, except transport	24.3	10.5	2.8	0.9
Transport equipment operatives	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.1
Nonfarm laborers	2.1	1.3	0.5	0.3
Service, except private household	31.4	17.2	13.5	3.3
Private household	8.1	1.7	1.1	0.2
Farm	1.8	0.9	0.6	0.4

Table 46. Women and men 25 years and over in the labor force by age and years of school completed, March 1979

Sex and years of school completed	Total, 25 years and over	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 years and over
WOMEN					
Total in labor force:					
Number (thousands)	**31,810**	**11,007**	**8,061**	**6,907**	**5,835**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Elementary school:					
8 years or less	8.4	3.1	5.8	11.0	18.7
High school:					
1 to 3 years	12.5	9.0	13.2	14.8	15.4
4 years	44.8	42.1	48.0	47.0	42.9
College:					
1 to 3 years	16.9	21.7	15.5	14.1	12.8
4 years or more	17.4	24.1	17.3	13.1	10.2
MEN					
Total in labor force:					
Number (thousands)	**45,934**	**15,581**	**11,256**	**10,095**	**9,002**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Elementary school:					
8 years or less	12.1	4.9	9.2	15.8	23.7
High school:					
1 to 3 years	12.1	8.6	11.9	15.8	14.4
4 years	35.3	35.3	37.6	35.0	32.9
College:					
1 to 3 years	17.1	23.1	16.4	12.5	12.7
4 years or more	23.4	28.1	24.8	20.9	16.3

Table 47.
Percent of workers 25 years old and over with 12 years of education or more by sex and occupation group, March, 1970 and 1979

Item	Total employed, 25 years and over (in thousands)		Percent with 4 years of high school only		Percent with 1 year of college or more	
	1970	1979	1970	1979	1970	1979
WOMEN						
White-collar workers	13,748	19,858	45.7	45.6	35.1	46.7
Blue-collar workers	4,493	4,48[illegible]	29.9	43.4	3.7	8.4
Service workers	4,798	5,[illegible]	30.4	43.6	6.2	14.9
Farmers and farm workers	208	31[illegible]	26.0	44.2	8.7	21.3
MEN						
White-collar workers	16,863	20,434	28.4	24.8	53.6	67.5
Blue-collar workers	19,167	18,829	33.2	45.8	7.9	17.4
Service workers	2,994	3,210	30.1	39.5	11.1	24.5
Farmers and farm workers	1,869	1,681	26.1	35.8	8.9	17.3

Part V.

Earnings and Income

At the beginning of the 1980's, working women were in the same relative earnings position compared with men as at the outset of the 1970's. Women working full time averaged about $6 for every $10 earned by men. Although earnings parity with men was nearly achieved in some newer fields such as computer science, most women were still at the lower end of the pay scale.

In March 1979, both husband and wife were earners in 51 percent of married-couple families. Median income of these families was about $23,000 in 1978 compared with a little more than $17,000 for families where only the husband worked.

Even though their earnings were relatively low, working wives contributed about a quarter of the family income in 1978. This proportion varied depending on the extent of their work experience. The proportion was 38 percent for wives working all year, full time, but only 11 percent for those working just part time or 26 weeks or less full time.

The income of about 10.1 million women for all of 1978 was not sufficient to lift them above the poverty level. These women were typically school dropouts (61 percent) and a large proportion (35 percent) were at least 55 years of age.

Table 48.
Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, May, 1967-78 and second quarter, 1979-80

Year	Usual weekly earnings				Women's earnings as percent of men's
	In current dollars		In 1967 dollars		
	Women	Men	Women	Men	
May of:					
1967	$ 78	$125	$78	$125	62
1969	86	142	79	130	61
1970	94	151	81	131	62
1971	100	162	83	134	62
1972	106	168	85	135	63
1973	116	188	88	143	62
1974	124	204	85	140	61
1975	137	221	86	138	62
1976	145	234	86	138	62
1977	156	253	86	139	62
1978	166	272	85	140	61
1979[1]					
2nd quarter	183	295	85	137	62
1980:					
2nd quarter	200	317	81	129	63

[1]Data for 2nd quarter 1979 and later are not strictly comparable with previous years.

Table 49.
Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex and occupation, annual averages, 1979

Occupation	Usual weekly earnings		Women's earnings as percent of men's
	Women	Men	
Professional-technical	$263	$372	71
Managerial-administrative, except farm	235	399	59
Sales	159	311	51
Clerical	183	287	64
Craft	188	310	61
Operatives, except transport	159	253	63
Transport equipment operatives	186	277	67
Nonfarm laborers	159	213	75
Service	139	208	67
Farm	130	163	80

Table 50. Distribution of full-time wage and salary workers by usual weekly earnings and selected characteristics, annual averages, 1979

Item	Total (thousands)	Percent distribution of weekly earnings							Median earnings
		Under $149	$150 to 199	$200 to 249	$250 to 299	$300 to 349	$350 to 399	$400 or more	
AGE									
Women, 16 years and over	27,138	30.9	26.0	18.7	10.7	6.4	3.0	4.4	$186
16 to 24	6,284	47.5	29.4	13.8	5.5	2.1	1.0	.8	153
25 and over	20,854	25.9	24.9	20.2	12.2	7.7	3.6	5.4	197
Men, 16 years and over	43,790	9.4	11.9	15.7	13.2	14.3	9.8	25.7	298
16 to 24	8,304	25.3	23.8	21.2	11.9	8.3	4.1	5.4	201
25 and over	35,487	5.6	9.1	14.5	13.5	15.7	11.2	30.5	322
FAMILY STATUS									
Wives	14,357	28.8	26.5	19.7	11.2	6.6	3.0	4.2	189
Women who maintain families	3,591	29.0	25.5	19.9	10.9	7.0	3.6	4.1	190
Husbands	30,799	4.7	8.9	14.7	13.7	15.7	11.4	30.8	324
Men who maintain families	988	9.5	13.2	16.1	12.5	15.5	9.5	23.7	294
Women not in families	5,125	24.4	23.5	20.3	12.9	8.0	4.0	6.8	204
Men not in families	6,157	11.5	14.3	17.0	14.6	13.8	8.5	20.2	274
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN									
Women:									
White	23,230	30.1	26.2	19.0	10.9	6.5	3.0	4.4	187
Black	3,312	37.5	24.9	17.0	8.7	5.6	2.9	3.5	174
Hispanic origin	1,324	46.2	25.7	13.5	7.1	4.1	1.6	1.9	156
Men:									
White	38,970	8.3	11.2	15.4	13.3	14.6	10.2	27.2	306
Black	4,107	19.2	17.8	19.5	13.3	11.4	6.8	12.2	233
Hispanic origin	2,411	18.3	20.8	20.2	11.9	11.5	5.8	11.5	226

Table 51. Distribution of families by usual weekly wage and salary earnings, type of family, and number of earners, annual averages, 1979

Type of family and number of wage and salary earners	Number of families (thousands)	Percent distribution of family earnings								Median usual weekly earnings
		Under $100	$100 to 199	$200 to 299	$300 to 399	$400 to 499	$500 to 599	$600 to 799	$800 or more	
Total families with earners	**40,267**	**4.2**	**13.1**	**17.3**	**19.6**	**16.2**	**11.7**	**11.6**	**6.6**	**$377**
Married-couple families	33,656	3.0	9.3	15.9	20.4	17.8	13.1	13.1	7.5	407
1 earner	14,695	6.5	18.9	25.1	22.6	12.9	6.8	4.5	2.8	297
Husband	12,369	3.5	13.8	25.9	25.4	15.0	8.0	5.2	3.2	322
Wife	1,743	22.9	46.3	21.1	7.1	1.5	.6	.4	.1	151
Other family member	583	20.3	44.8	20.8	9.1	3.3	1.0	.6	.1	161
2 or more earners	18,962	.3	1.9	8.7	18.6	21.6	17.9	19.8	11.3	494
Husband and wife	15,867	.2	1.4	8.3	18.8	22.0	18.2	19.9	11.2	496
Husband and other family member(s)	2,593	.3	2.2	7.9	16.4	19.9	18.4	21.3	13.6	517
Wife and other family member(s)	361	2.3	15.6	25.3	24.9	18.6	6.6	5.5	1.3	324
Other family members only	141	3.0	10.9	30.9	23.5	11.8	9.0	7.6	3.2	320
Families maintained by women	5,375	11.2	35.8	25.7	13.9	6.6	3.2	2.5	1.1	209
1 earner	3,753	15.4	46.6	25.1	8.7	2.4	1.0	.4	.4	171
Householder[1]	2,853	13.6	47.6	26.5	9.0	2.0	.7	.3	.2	174
Other family member	899	21.1	43.5	20.6	7.9	3.6	1.8	.8	.7	159
2 or more earners	1,622	1.4	10.9	27.3	25.9	16.3	8.4	7.3	2.6	336
Families maintained by men	1,236	5.0	17.3	19.8	22.5	13.7	9.9	7.5	4.4	329
1 earner	789	7.7	25.4	24.7	21.8	10.2	5.3	2.8	2.0	265
2 or more earners	448	.2	2.9	11.0	23.7	19.8	18.0	15.8	8.5	459

[1]Householder refers to the woman maintaining the family.

Table 52. Median annual earnings of year-round full-time workers 14 years and over by sex, 1955-78

Year	Annual earnings		Women's earnings as percent of men's
	Women	Men	
1955	$2,719	$4,252	63.9
1956	2,827	4,466	63.3
1957	3,008	4,713	63.8
1958	3,102	4,927	63.0
1959	3,193	5,209	61.3
1960	3,293	5,417	60.8
1961	3,351	5,644	59.4
1962	3,446	5,794	59.5
1963	3,561	5,978	59.6
1964	3,690	6,195	59.6
1965	3,823	6,375	60.0
1966	3,973	6,848	58.0
1967	4,150	7,182	57.8
1968	4,457	7,664	58.2
1969	4,977	8,227	60.5
1970	5,323	8,966	59.4
1971	5,593	9,399	59.5
1972	5,903	10,202	57.9
1973	6,335	11,186	56.6
1974	6,970	11,889	58.6
1975	7,504	12,758	58.8
1976	8,099	13,455	60.2
1977	8,618	14,626	58.9
1978	9,350	15,730	59.4

NOTE: Data for 1955 to 1966 are for wage and salary workers only and exclude self-employed persons.

Table 53. Median annual earnings of women 14 years and over by weeks worked, 1978

Work experience	Annual earnings	Women's earnings as percent of men's
Total who worked at any time in 1978	**$5,249**	**43.3**
Worked at full-time jobs	7,464	55.0
50 to 52 weeks	9,350	59.4
27 to 49 weeks	5,534	61.2
26 weeks or less	1,622	71.4
Worked at part-time jobs	1,635	100.0
50 to 52 weeks	3,423	103.9
27 to 49 weeks	2,338	87.3
26 weeks or less	714	99.0

Table 54. Sources of income of women 14 years and over, 1978

Type of income	Number of women (thousands)
Total	**71,864**
Wage or salary income	46,574
Nonfarm self-employment income	2,573
Farm self-employment income	452
Property income	31,909
Social security and railroad retirement income	16,994
Other retirement income	3,457
Supplemental security income	2,262
Public assistance or welfare income	3,516
Veterans' and unemployment benefits and workers' compensation	3,514
Other income	4,556

NOTE: Because some women receive income from more than one source, the sum of the individual components is greater than the total.

Table 55. Married-couple families by number of earners and size of family, March 1979, and median family income in 1978

(Number of families in thousands)

Number of earners	Total	Size of family						Median family income 1978[1]
		2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 or more	
Total married-couple families	**47,689**	**17,554**	**10,313**	**10,694**	**5,431**	**2,245**	**1,453**	**$19,400**
No earners	5,102	4,441	371	147	70	37	37	7,900
One earner	14,179	5,405	2,908	3,333	1,618	601	313	16,400
Husband only	12,201	4,309	2,367	3,163	1,525	553	284	17,200
Wife only	1,476	1,096	196	91	56	29	10	11,200
Other relative only	502	—	346	80	37	20	20	13,200
Two earners	21,528	7,709	5,528	5,079	2,113	744	354	21,200
Husband and wife only	18,669	7,709	4,274	4,272	1,667	539	207	20,900
Husband and other relative, only	2,414	—	1,046	663	395	183	126	23,900
Husband is nonearner	445	—	208	143	51	22	21	17,700
Three earners or more	6,881	—	1,505	2,135	1,629	863	749	30,000
Husband and wife earners	5,573	—	1,505	1,722	1,255	614	477	29,900
Husband an earner, wife nonearner	1,172	—	—	376	326	223	248	30,600
Husband is nonearner	135	—	—	37	48	26	23	27,400

[1]Income rounded to nearest $100

Table 56.
Married-couple families by number of earners in previous year and presence and number of own children under 18, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Number of earners	Total	Presence and number of own children under age 18						
		None	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more
Total married-couple families	**47,689**	**23,178**	**9,202**	**9,136**	**4,067**	**1,437**	**448**	**222**
No earners	5,102	4,708	163	119	54	35	12	12
One earner	14,179	6,344	2,369	3,178	1,513	515	189	71
Husband only	12,201	4,770	2,171	3,075	1,452	486	181	67
Wife only	1,476	1,183	141	79	48	19	6	—
Other relative only	502	391	57	24	14	10	1	5
Two earners	21,528	9,551	4,831	4,565	1,796	585	138	61
Husband and wife only	18,669	8,122	4,165	4,186	1,571	472	112	41
Husband and other relative, only	2,414	1,128	579	348	207	109	23	20
Husband is nonearner	445	301	87	31	18	4	3	1
Three earners or more	6,881	2,575	1,839	1,274	705	302	109	77
Husband and wife earners	5,573	2,136	1,460	1,038	576	219	86	58
Husband an earner, wife nonearner	1,172	363	352	217	125	75	21	19
Husband is nonearner	135	76	28	19	4	7	2	—

NOTE: Children are defined as "own" children of the family and include never-married sons and daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Table 57. Families maintained by women and men by number of earners and size of family, March 1979, and median family income in 1978

(Numbers in thousands)

Type of family and number of earners	Total	Size of family					Median family income 1978[1]
		2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 or more	
Maintained by women, total[1]	**8,453**	**3,901**	**2,287**	**1,209**	**596**	**460**	**$ 8,500**
No earners	1,961	904	490	318	153	96	4,100
One earner	4,112	2,140	1,160	455	222	135	8,300
Householder[3] only	3,187	1,624	988	362	145	68	8,100
Other relative only	925	516	172	94	77	67	9,400
Two earners or more	2,380	857	637	435	222	229	15,600
Householder[3] and other relative	2,116	857	529	370	182	177	15,600
Householder[3] is nonearner	264	—	108	65	40	51	15,800
Maintained by men, total[1]	**1,653**	**1,024**	**376**	**132**	**61**	**60**	**$16,000**
No earners	188	145	24	8	7	3	6,200
One earner	746	488	173	56	18	10	13,900
Householder[3] only	594	381	148	46	15	3	14,100
Other relative only	152	106	25	10	3	7	13,000
Two earners or more	719	391	179	68	35	46	22,200
Householder[3] and other relative	677	391	160	58	31	37	22,400
Householder[3] is nonearner	43	—	19	11	5	9	(4)

[1]Income rounded to nearest $100.
[2]Includes only divorced, separated, widowed or never-married persons.
[3]Householder refers to the woman or man maintaining the family.
[4]Median not shown where number of families is less than 75,000.

Table 58.
Families maintained by women and men by number of earners in previous year and presence and number of own children under 18, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Type of family and number of earners	Total	Presence and number of own children under age 18					
		None	1	2	3	4	5 or more
Maintained by women, total[1]	**8,453**	**3,167**	**2,358**	**1,701**	**782**	**293**	**152**
No earners	1,961	641	473	448	234	111	53
One earner	4,112	1,159	1,406	972	393	124	59
Householder[2] only	3,187	459	1,337	909	341	97	43
Other relative only	925	700	69	62	51	27	16
Two earners or more	2,380	1,366	479	282	155	58	41
Householder[2] and other relative	2,116	1,199	437	262	143	48	27
Householder[2] is nonearner	264	168	42	19	12	9	14
Maintained by men, total[1]	**1,653**	**1,085**	**316**	**168**	**64**	**15**	**4**
No earners	188	134	37	12	1	3	—
One earner	746	382	195	119	37	10	3
Householder[2] only	594	239	191	115	37	10	2
Other relative only	152	143	4	5	—	—	1
Two earners or more	719	569	85	37	25	2	2
Householder[2] and other relative	677	530	82	37	25	2	1
Householder[2] is nonearner	43	39	2	—	—	—	1

[1]Includes only divorced, separated, widowed, or never-married persons.
[2]Householder refers to the woman or man maintaining the family.

See note on table 56.

Table 59.
Earnings of married women, husband present, as percent of family income in 1978, by selected characteristics of married-couple families, March 1979

Characteristic	Number of wives (thousands)	Median percent of family income accounted for by earnings of wife
Total, wives with earnings	**26,074**	**26.1**
Age of husband:		
Under 25 years	2,240	30.0
25 to 44 years	13,373	26.0
45 years and over	10,461	25.5
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks full time	11,455	37.6
Family income:		
Under $10,000	463	63.6
$10,000 to $14,999	1,067	49.8
$15,000 to $19,999	1,873	42.3
$20,000 to $24,999	2,203	38.6
$25,000 and over	5,849	33.4
Median family income	$25,346	—
Wife worked 27 to 49 weeks full time	3,472	29.6
Median family income	$20,181	—
Wife worked 1 to 26 weeks full time or 1 to 52 weeks part time	11,147	11.1
Median family income	$19,184	—

Table 60.
Earnings of women maintaining families as percent of family income in 1978 by selected characteristics, March 1979

Characteristic	Number of women (thousands)	Median percent of family income accounted for by earnings of woman
Total, women with earnings maintaining families	**5,273**	**67.8**
Age of householder[1]:		
Under 25 years	507	71.4
25 to 44 years	2,924	76.9
45 years and over	1,842	52.3
Householder[1] worked 50 to 52 weeks full time	2,943	77.0
Family income:		
Under $5,000	75	85.1
$5,000 to $9,999	806	84.1
$10,000 to $14,999	864	79.5
$15,000 and over	1,199	61.6
Median family income	$13,219	—
Householder[1] worked 27 to 49 weeks full time	712	74.5
Median family income	$ 8,848	—
Householder[1] worked 1 to 26 weeks full time or 1 to 52 weeks part time	1,618	35.4
Median family income	$ 5,746	—

[1]Householder refers to the woman maintaining the family.

Table 61.
Women who work full time year round by median earnings in 1978, marital status, and educational attainment, March 1979

Education	Total	Never married	Married, husband present	Separated	Widowed	Divorced
	Number of women (thousands)					
Total who worked 50 to 52 weeks full time	**21,125**	**4,495**	**11,823**	**948**	**1,264**	**2,595**
Less than 12 years of high school	3,339	391	1,880	213	389	465
12 years of high school only	10,227	2,072	5,894	484	573	1,205
College:						
1-3 years	3,815	934	1,965	144	197	575
4 years	2,259	664	1,282	64	59	189
5 years or more	1,485	433	803	44	46	160
	Median earnings					
Total	**$ 9,294**	**$ 9,201**	**$ 9,219**	**$ 9,023**	**$ 8,981**	**$10,119**
Less than 12 years of high school	7,142	6,507	7,045	6,805	7,516	7,757
12 years of high school only	8,805	8,268	8,797	8,987	9,252	9,708
College:						
1-3 years	9,796	9,537	9,519	10,182	10,553	11,099
4 years	11,560	11,107	11,595	(1)	(1)	13,029
5 years or more	14,697	14,663	14,408	(1)	(1)	16,318

[1]Median not shown where base is less than 75,000.

Table 62.
Median annual earnings of year-round full-time workers in 1978 by occupation of longest job, March 1979

Occupation	Number employed year round, full time (thousands)		Annual earnings, 1978		Women's earnings as percent of men's
	Women	Men	Women	Men	
Total with earnings	**20,914**	**41,036**	**$ 9,350**	**$15,730**	**59**
Professional-technical	3,977	7,121	12,647	19,729	64
Managerial-administrative, except farm	1,836	7,128	10,689	19,633	54
Sales	880	2,456	7,644	16,839	45
Clerical	8,311	2,561	9,158	15,289	60
Craft	390	8,768	9,584	15,776	61
Operatives, except transport	2,479	4,483	7,995	13,470	59
Transport equipment operatives	52	2,344	8,364	14,071	59
Nonfarm laborers	199	1,873	7,452	12,031	62
Service	2,699	2,821	6,832	11,057	62
Farm	91	1,480	2,360	7,948	30

Table 63.
Women 16 years old and over by poverty status, 1966-78

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Population	Below poverty level	
		Number	Percent of population
1966	68,597	10,585	15.4
1967	69,833	10,714	15.3
1968	71,041	9,645	13.6
1969	72,367	9,550	13.2
1970	73,666	9,947	13.5
1971	75,503	10,172	13.5
1972	76,812	9,724	12.7
1973	78,110	9,096	11.6
1974	79,452	9,371	11.8
1975	80,834	10,060	12.4
1976	82,059	10,034	12.2
1977	83,374	9,897	11.9
1978	84,686	10,053	11.9

Table 64. Poverty status in 1978 of women and men by age and years of school completed, March 1979

Sex and years of school completed	Total, 16 years and over	16 and 17 years	18 to 21 years	22 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
WOMEN								
Total (thousands)	**84,686**	**4,057**	**8,365**	**23,289**	**12,671**	**11,790**	**10,887**	**13,627**
Total in poverty:								
Number (thousands)	10,053	586	1,233	2,561	1,204	993	1,194	2,282
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Elementary school: 8 years or less (includes none completed)	32.1	15.4	6.6	13.8	24.8	39.4	46.9	63.6
High school: 1 to 3 years	28.7	80.5	39.2	28.9	29.9	24.0	18.0	16.3
4 years	26.8	4.1	36.6	35.1	31.6	30.0	26.8	14.2
College: 1 year or more	12.4	—	17.7	22.1	13.4	6.6	8.3	5.8
MEN								
Total (thousands)	**76,894**	**4,178**	**8,010**	**22,438**	**11,940**	**11,036**	**9,744**	**9,548**
Total in poverty:								
Number (thousands)	5,631	531	803	1,374	656	646	671	951
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Elementary school: 8 years or less (includes none completed)	34.5	25.2	10.1	15.5	30.3	42.1	53.9	71.9
High school: 1 to 3 years	26.6	73.4	37.9	21.7	23.6	19.5	17.3	11.7
4 years	21.6	1.1	32.3	29.2	24.7	25.9	18.0	10.6
College: 1 year or more	17.2	—	19.7	33.6	21.3	12.5	10.9	5.7

Part VI.

Race and Hispanic Origin

The social and cultural diversity among the various racial and ethnic groups is reflected in the labor market experience of women. Historically, black women have been more likely to work than whites. However, during the 1970's the labor force participation rate for white women grew much more rapidly than for black women so that by the close of the decade there was little difference between their overall participation rates (about 51 and 54 percent, respectively, for white and black women). Although the participation rate for Hispanic women was somewhat lower than for either blacks or whites, it has also advanced, reaching 47 percent in 1979.

The proportion of black women in white-collar work increased sharply over the decade, as many of the younger, better educated women found jobs in clerical occupations. Over the same period, the proportion of blacks in private household occupations — an area where many black women have historically found employment — declined dramatically.

Black and Hispanic mothers who were maintaining families (no husband present) were considerably less likely than white mothers to be in the labor force. Thus, not surprisingly, the incidence of poverty was far greater among such black and Hispanic families than among white families. In 1978, about 60 percent of the black and Hispanic families maintained by women with children were living below the poverty level compared with only 34 percent of white families.

Table 65.
Labor force status of women and men by race, annual averages, 1955-79

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Women					
	Population		Labor force participation rate		Unemployment rate	
	White	Black and other	White	Black and other	White	Black and other
1955	51,803	5,772	34.5	46.1	4.3	8.4
1956	52,372	5,857	35.7	47.3	4.2	8.9
1957	52,997	5,952	35.7	47.2	4.3	7.3
1958	53,645	6,047	35.8	48.0	6.2	10.8
1959	54,393	6,144	36.0	47.7	5.3	9.4
1960	55,215	6,369	36.5	48.2	5.3	9.4
1961	55,994	6,489	36.9	48.3	6.5	11.8
1962	56,660	6,663	36.7	48.0	5.5	11.0
1963	57,672	6,823	37.2	48.1	5.8	11.2
1964	58,665	6,972	37.5	48.5	5.5	10.6
1965	59,601	7,130	38.1	48.6	5.0	9.2
1966	60,503	7,292	39.2	49.3	4.3	8.6
1967	61,492	7,477	40.1	49.5	4.6	9.1
1968	62,513	7,666	40.7	49.3	4.3	8.3
1969	63,564	7,873	41.8	49.8	4.2	7.8
1970	64,624	8,110	42.6	49.5	5.4	9.3
1971	65,697	8,345	42.6	49.2	6.3	10.8
1972	67,138	8,730	43.2	48.7	5.9	11.3
1973	68,090	9,102	44.1	49.1	5.3	10.5
1974	69,064	9,445	45.2	49.1	6.1	10.7
1975	70,115	9,750	45.9	49.2	8.6	14.0
1976	71,147	10,056	46.9	50.2	7.9	13.6
1977	72,117	10,345	48.1	50.9	7.3	14.0
1978	73,118	10,646	49.5	53.3	6.2	13.1
1979	74,120	10,963	50.6	53.5	5.9	12.3

Table 65. Continued.

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Men					
	Population		Labor force participation rate		Unemployment rate	
	White	Black and other	White	Black and other	White	Black and other
1955	47,077	5,034	85.4	85.0	3.7	8.8
1956	47,604	5,120	85.6	85.1	3.4	7.9
1957	48,122	5,194	84.8	84.3	3.6	8.3
1958	48,747	5,287	84.3	84.0	6.1	13.8
1959	49,410	5,384	83.8	83.4	4.6	11.5
1960	50,067	5,595	83.4	83.0	4.8	10.7
1961	50,610	5,677	83.0	82.2	5.7	12.8
1962	51,055	5,777	82.1	80.8	4.6	10.9
1963	52,033	5,888	81.5	80.2	4.7	10.5
1964	52,869	5,978	81.1	80.0	4.1	8.9
1965	53,683	6,101	80.8	79.6	3.6	7.4
1966	54,063	6,200	80.6	79.0	2.8	6.3
1967	54,608	6,298	80.7	78.5	2.7	6.0
1968	55,435	6,413	80.4	77.6	2.6	5.6
1969	56,349	6,549	80.2	76.9	2.5	5.3
1970	57,488	6,773	80.0	76.5	4.0	7.3
1971	58,762	6,973	79.6	74.9	4.9	9.1
1972	60,221	7,237	79.6	73.7	4.5	8.9
1973	61,213	7,532	79.5	73.8	3.7	7.6
1974	62,311	7,779	79.4	73.3	4.3	9.1
1975	63,386	8,017	78.7	71.5	7.2	13.7
1976	64,422	8,279	78.4	70.7	6.4	12.7
1977	65,478	8,486	78.5	71.0	5.5	12.4
1978	66,462	8,714	78.6	72.0	4.5	10.9
1979	67,494	8,955	78.6	71.9	4.4	10.3

Table 66.
Labor force status of persons of Hispanic origin by sex, annual averages, 1973-79

Sex and year	Population (thousands)	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate
WOMEN			
1973	3,159	40.9	9.0
1974	3,364	42.3	9.4
1975	3,557	43.1	13.6
1976	3,650	44.0	12.9
1977	3,783	44.1	11.8
1978	4,023	46.5	11.3
1979	4,138	47.4	10.4
MEN			
1973	2,838	81.5	6.7
1974	3,060	81.7	7.3
1975	3,132	80.7	11.4
1976	3,193	79.6	10.7
1977	3,373	80.7	8.9
1978	3,616	81.0	7.6
1979	3,764	81.3	6.9

Table 67.
Women and men in the population and labor force by age, race, and Hispanic origin, annual averages, 1979

Age	White		Black		Hispanic origin	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
POPULATION						
Total: Number (thousands)	**74,120**	**67,494**	**9,392**	**7,634**	**4,138**	**3,764**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
16 to 24	20.9	22.5	26.6	28.1	28.3	30.0
16 to 19	9.3	10.3	12.2	14.0	12.7	14.3
20 to 24	11.6	12.2	14.4	14.1	15.6	15.7
25 to 34	20.2	21.6	22.0	21.4	25.8	25.1
35 to 44	14.9	15.5	15.6	15.1	18.2	17.8
45 to 54	13.9	14.4	13.1	13.8	12.3	12.9
55 to 64	13.2	13.1	10.5	10.8	8.2	7.7
65 and over	16.8	12.8	12.3	10.7	7.2	6.4
LABOR FORCE						
Total: Number (thousands)	**37,528**	**53,074**	**4,984**	**5,446**	**1,960**	**3,059**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
16 to 24	26.8	22.1	24.1	24.5	31.0	27.5
16 to 19	10.6	8.5	8.5	8.5	11.7	10.0
20 to 24	16.2	13.6	16.6	16.0	19.3	17.5
25 to 34	25.1	26.4	29.1	27.3	28.6	29.1
35 to 44	18.6	19.1	19.9	19.1	20.7	20.6
45 to 54	15.9	16.9	14.7	16.4	12.9	14.3
55 to 64	10.9	12.3	8.7	9.8	6.0	6.8
65 and over	2.7	3.3	2.5	2.9	0.8	1.8

Table 68. Employment status of white, black and Hispanic persons, by sex and marital status, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin, and employment status	Women					
	Total	Never married	Married, husband present	Married, husband absent	Widowed	Divorced
WHITE						
Population	73,812	14,261	44,087	1,928	9,021	4,515
Labor force	37,210	9,296	21,391	1,136	1,988	3,400
Labor force participation rate	50.4	65.2	48.5	58.9	22.0	75.3
Employed	35,025	8,554	20,353	1,031	1,889	3,198
Unemployed	2,185	742	1,038	105	99	202
Unemployment rate	5.9	8.0	4.9	9.2	5.0	5.9
BLACK						
Population	9,319	2,962	3,213	1,074	1,288	782
Labor force	4,899	1,502	1,920	632	322	523
Labor force participation rate	52.6	50.7	59.7	58.9	25.0	66.8
Employed	4,321	1,195	1,778	564	301	483
Unemployed	578	307	142	69	21	40
Unemployment rate	11.8	20.4	7.4	10.9	6.5	7.7
HISPANIC						
Population	3,926	897	2,220	291	261	256
Labor force	1,859	502	1,028	117	58	154
Labor force participation rate	47.4	56.0	46.3	40.4	22.2	60.2
Employed	1,677	436	946	103	51	140
Unemployed	183	66	82	15	7	14
Unemployment rate	9.8	13.1	8.0	12.5	(1)	9.0

See footnote at end of table.

Table 68. Continued.

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin, and employment status	Men					
	Total	Never married	Married, wife present	Married, wife absent	Widowed	Divorced
WHITE						
Population	67,188	17,708	43,549	1,434	1,595	2,900
Labor force	52,297	12,874	35,474	1,134	439	2,375
Labor force participation rate	77.8	72.7	81.5	79.1	27.5	81.9
Employed	49,674	11,535	34,419	1,073	427	2,221
Unemployed	2,622	1,339	1,055	62	12	154
Unemployment rate	5.0	10.4	3.0	5.4	2.7	6.5
BLACK						
Population	7,475	2,848	3,230	586	310	501
Labor force	5,246	1,760	2,585	405	116	379
Labor force participation rate	70.2	61.8	80.0	69.0	37.6	75.8
Employed	4,549	1,337	2,422	341	105	344
Unemployed	696	423	163	64	11	35
Unemployment rate	13.3	24.0	6.3	15.7	9.4	9.3
HISPANIC						
Population	3,617	1,120	2,120	187	56	134
Labor force	2,936	786	1,852	162	22	114
Labor force participation rate	81.1	70.1	87.4	86.7	(1)	84.9
Employed	2,704	673	1,751	149	22	109
Unemployed	232	113	101	13	—	5
Unemployment rate	7.9	14.3	5.4	8.1	—	4.8

[1]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000

Table 69.
Labor force status of women by race, Hispanic origin, marital status, and presence and age of children under 18, March 1979

Marital and family status	White		
	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate
Women, total	**37,210**	**50.4**	**5.9**
Never married	9,296	65.2	8.0
With no own children	9,122	65.4	7.9
With children under 18	174	57.3	12.6
With children 6-17 only	52	(1)	(1)
With children under 6	121	55.3	14.9
Married, husband present	21,391	48.5	4.9
With no own children	10,097	46.3	3.7
With children under 18	11,294	50.7	5.9
With children 6-17 only	7,178	58.1	4.7
With children under 6	4,116	41.5	8.1
Married, husband absent	1,136	58.9	9.2
With no own children	532	57.9	5.6
With children under 18	603	59.8	12.4
With children 6-17 only	353	66.3	8.1
With children under 6	250	52.5	18.5
Widowed	1,988	22.0	5.0
With no own children	1,725	20.2	4.2
With children under 18	263	53.1	9.8
With children 6-17 only	241	55.2	9.0
With children under 6	22	(1)	18.7
Divorced	3,400	75.3	5.9
With no own children	1,781	70.4	5.0
With children under 18	1,619	81.6	6.9
With children 6-17 only	1,192	85.3	6.0
With children under 6	427	72.9	9.5

See footnote at end of table.

Table 69. Continued.

Marital and family status	Black			Hispanic origin		
	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate	Civilian labor force (thousands)	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate
Women, total	**4,899**	**52.6**	**11.8**	**1,859**	**47.4**	**9.8**
Never married	1,502	50.7	20.4	502	56.0	13.1
With no own children	1,191	50.3	19.1	469	58.6	13.0
With children under 18	311	52.4	25.7	33	34.0	(1)
With children 6-17 only	135	63.3	24.0	10	(1)	(1)
With children under 6	176	46.3	27.0	23	(1)	(1)
Married, husband present	1,920	59.7	7.4	1,028	46.3	8.0
With no own children	695	51.6	4.2	358	49.2	7.6
With children under 18	1,225	65.6	9.2	669	44.9	8.1
With children 6-17 only	715	70.3	7.2	344	52.8	6.4
With children under 6	510	60.1	11.9	326	38.7	10.0
Married, husband absent	632	58.9	10.9	117	40.4	12.5
With no own children	258	58.5	7.2	49	(1)	(1)
With children under 18	374	59.1	13.4	69	(1)	(1)
With children 6-17 only	229	62.9	10.2	34	(1)	(1)
With children under 6	146	53.9	18.3	34	(1)	(1)
Widowed	322	25.0	6.5	58	22.2	(1)
With no own children	252	22.8	6.7	43	19.0	(1)
With children under 18	70	38.8	(1)	15	(1)	(1)
With children 6-17 only	60	39.7	(1)	9	(1)	(1)
With children under 6	10	(1)	(1)	6	(1)	—
Divorced	523	66.8	7.7	154	60.2	9.0
With no own children	243	65.9	3.4	71	55.3	(1)
With children under 18	279	67.7	11.4	83	65.2	9.4
With children 6-17 only	207	74.4	9.7	59	71.2	(1)
With children under 6	72	53.8	(1)	24	(1)	(1)

[1]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000.

See note on table 26.

Table 70. Employment status of women and men of Hispanic origin, March, 1975 and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and employment status	1975				1979			
	Total	Mexican-American	Puerto Rican	Other	Total	Mexican-American	Puerto Rican	Other
WOMEN								
Labor force	1,478	835	184	460	1,859	1,077	196	586
Labor force participation rate	42.3	42.1	33.5	47.7	47.4	48.1	33.4	53.3
Employed	1,298	735	157	406	1,677	962	173	542
Unemployed	180	99	27	54	183	115	23	44
Unemployment rate	12.2	11.9	14.6	11.7	9.8	10.7	11.9	7.5
Not in labor force	2,015	1,146	365	504	2,066	1,163	390	514
MEN								
Labor force	2,542	1,547	310	685	2,936	1,853	318	765
Labor force participation rate	79.6	81.0	74.0	79.3	81.1	83.1	73.1	80.3
Employed	2,209	1,358	250	601	2,704	1,724	272	708
Unemployed	333	189	60	84	232	130	46	57
Unemployment rate	13.1	12.2	19.3	12.3	7.9	7.0	14.3	7.4
Not in labor force	651	363	109	178	682	378	117	187

Table 71.
Labor force status of women and men by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic origin, March 1979

Sex and years of school completed	White		Black		Hispanic origin	
	Population	Labor force	Population	Labor force	Population	Labor force
WOMEN						
Total: Number (in thousands)	**73,812**	**37,210**	**9,319**	**4,899**	**3,926**	**1,859**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Elementary: Less than 8 years[1]	6.8	2.8	14.1	7.0	28.9	19.7
8 years	7.2	3.3	7.4	5.0	7.5	5.5
High school: 1 to 3 years	18.1	15.1	27.7	22.2	20.6	17.9
4 years	40.8	45.6	31.4	38.6	29.1	37.4
College: 1 to 3 years	15.4	17.8	13.0	17.4	9.4	12.9
4 years or more	11.7	15.4	6.4	9.8	4.5	6.6
Median school years completed	12.4	12.6	12.0	12.4	11.0	12.2
MEN						
Total: Number (in thousands)	**67,187**	**52,297**	**7,475**	**5,246**	**3,618**	**2,936**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Elementary: Less than 8 years[1]	7.0	4.4	18.9	12.4	27.6	26.3
8 years	7.5	5.2	6.7	5.5	8.0	7.3
High school: 1 to 3 years	17.5	15.3	26.7	23.6	22.4	19.6
4 years	33.4	36.8	29.4	36.5	24.2	27.1
College: 1 to 3 years	16.8	17.7	11.8	13.8	11.8	12.9
4 years or more	17.8	20.6	6.5	8.1	6.0	6.8
Median school years completed	12.5	12.7	11.7	12.2	10.9	11.5

[1]Includes persons reporting no school years completed.

Table 72.
Labor force participation rates and unemployment rates of women and men by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic origin, March 1979

Sex and years of school completed	White		Black		Hispanic origin	
	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate	Labor force participation rate	Unemployment rate
WOMEN						
Total	**50.4**	**5.9**	**52.6**	**11.8**	**47.4**	**9.8**
Elementary: Less than 8 years[1]	20.8	8.8	25.9	5.7	32.2	4.7
8 years	22.9	9.3	36.0	10.4	35.0	8.4
High school: 1 to 3 years	42.2	11.7	42.2	18.0	41.0	14.7
4 years	56.3	5.4	64.5	12.0	60.9	10.0
College: 1 to 3 years	58.4	3.7	70.3	8.5	64.8	5.6
4 years or more	66.0	2.9	81.2	4.1	70.2	5.3
MEN						
Total	**77.8**	**5.0**	**70.2**	**13.3**	**81.1**	**7.9**
Elementary: Less than 8 years[1]	48.9	6.5	46.1	10.3	77.3	6.0
8 years	53.9	6.8	57.2	8.3	74.8	8.3
High school: 1 to 3 years	67.7	10.4	62.1	21.0	70.8	14.5
4 years	86.0	4.7	87.2	13.6	91.1	6.7
College: 1 to 3 years	81.8	4.0	82.0	9.1	88.6	7.0
4 years or more	90.3	1.7	88.2	4.2	91.3	2.5

[1]Includes persons reporting no school years completed.

Table 73. Work experience of women and men by race and Hispanic origin, 1978

Work experience	Women			Men		
	White	Black	Hispanic origin	White	Black	Hispanic origin
Total: Number (thousands)	**73,812**	**9,319**	**3,926**	**67,187**	**7,475**	**3,618**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Worked during year	57.2	56.1	53.1	82.4	72.6	83.1
Did not work during year	42.8	43.9	46.9	17.6	27.4	16.9
Worked during year:						
Number (thousands)	42,226	5,229	2,083	55,378	5,426	3,008
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worked at full-time jobs[1]	66.8	74.9	74.5	88.1	86.2	89.2
40 to 52 weeks	49.6	54.0	49.4	74.9	65.0	71.2
50 to 52 weeks	43.0	47.8	41.4	67.2	57.1	62.4
27 to 39 weeks	5.6	6.6	6.9	4.7	8.0	6.4
1 to 26 weeks	11.6	14.3	18.3	8.5	13.1	11.4
Worked at part time jobs[2]	33.2	25.1	25.5	11.9	13.8	10.8
40 to 52 weeks	15.4	11.7	10.0	5.6	4.9	4.5
50 to 52 weeks	11.2	9.0	8.1	4.1	3.4	3.5
27 to 39 weeks	4.8	2.8	3.9	1.5	1.2	1.5
1 to 26 weeks	13.1	10.6	11.5	4.7	7.7	4.9

[1]Usually worked 35 hours or more a week in a majority of weeks worked.
[2]Usually worked less than 35 hours a week in a majority of weeks worked.

Table 74. Occupational distribution of employed white, black, and Hispanic women and men, March, 1970 and 1979

Occupation	Women		Men	
	1970	1979	1970	1979
WHITE				
Total: Number (thousands)	**25,967**	**35,025**	**43,798**	**49,674**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	15.6	16.9	14.8	16.2
Managerial-administrative, excep' farm	4.8	6.7	15.5	15.2
Sales	7.3	7.2	6.1	6.5
Clerical	36.1	36.3	7.4	5.9
Craft	1.1	1.8	20.6	21.5
Operatives, including transport	14.5	10.7	18.8	17.1
Nonfarm laborers	0.4	1.1	5.6	6.1
Service	18.8	18.3	6.0	7.9
Private household workers	3.7	2.1	0.1	0.1
All other service	15.1	16.2	6.0	7.8
Farm	1.5	1.0	5.1	3.8
BLACK				
Total: Number (thousands)	**3,407**	**4,321**	**4,273**	**4,549**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	10.0	12.7	5.7	8.7
Managerial-administrative, except farm	1.4	3.0	4.1	5.6
Sales	2.5	2.8	1.5	2.0
Clerical	18.9	28.8	8.3	7.1
Craft	0.7	1.3	14.4	17.5
Operatives, including transport	16.7	14.4	30.2	25.6
Nonfarm laborers	0.9	1.7	19.2	13.5
Service	48.4	34.8	11.9	16.7
Private household workers	19.4	8.0	0.2	0.1
All other service	29.0	26.8	11.6	16.6
Farm	0.5	0.5	4.6	3.3
HISPANIC ORIGIN				
Total: Number (thousands)	**1,019**	**1,677**	**1,874**	**2,704**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Professional-technical	8.1	7.5	7.5	7.7
Managerial-administrative, except farm	2.1	2.7	5.4	5.5
Sales	5.4	5.3	4.0	3.3
Clerical	28.5	31.7	7.5	6.3
Craft	2.3	2.1	20.4	20.9
Operatives, including transport	27.5	25.2	26.9	25.6
Nonfarm laborers	1.4	1.1	10.4	11.6
Service	22.9	21.8	11.9	13.5
Private household workers	4.6	2.6	0.1	0.1
All other service	18.3	19.2	11.8	13.4
Farm	2.1	1.5	6.0	4.7

Table 75.
Median annual earnings of women and men who worked year round, full time, by race and Hispanic origin, 1978

Sex and earnings	White	Black	Hispanic origin
WOMEN			
Worked year round full time in 1978[1]:			
Number (thousands)	**17,257**	**2,466**	**837**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Under $2,000[2]	1.0	0.6	1.2
$2,000 to $4,999	5.6	9.7	9.7
$5,000 to $9,999	47.7	50.8	57.1
$10,000 to $14,999	32.3	26.7	24.3
$15,000 to $24,999	12.1	11.7	6.9
$25,000 or more	1.4	0.5	0.5
Median annual earnings, 1978	$ 9,540	$ 8,837	$8,115
MEN			
Worked year round full time in 1978[1]:			
Number (thousands)	**33,127**	**3,019**	**1,757**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Under $2,000[2]	0.5	0.9	0.6
$2,000 to $4,999	1.7	4.2	3.5
$5,000 to $9,999	14.6	30.4	33.5
$10,000 to $14,999	24.9	28.0	29.8
$15,000 to $24,999	41.4	31.5	27.8
$25,000 or more	16.8	4.9	4.9
Median annual earnings, 1978	$16,184	$12,498	$11,841

[1]The survey was conducted in March 1979 and counted persons 16 years and over as of the survey date who worked 50 to 52 weeks in 1978, usually full time (35 hours or more per week).

[2]Includes workers with no earnings or a loss.

Table 76.
Median annual earnings of year-round full-time workers 14 years and over by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1975-78

Year	Annual earnings		Women's earnings as percent of men's
	Women	Men	
WHITE			
1975	$7,737	$13,233	58.5
1976	8,376	14,272	58.7
1977	8,870	15,378	57.7
1978	9,732	16,360	59.5
BLACK			
1975	$7,392	$ 9,848	75.1
1976	7,831	10,222	76.6
1977	8,290	10,602	78.2
1978	9,020	12,530	72.0
HISPANIC			
1975	$6,577	$ 9,588	68.6
1976	7,129	10,422	68.4
1977	7,599	10,935	69.5
1978	8,331	11,943	69.8

Table 77.
Earnings of married women, husband present, as percent of family income in 1978 by selected characteristics of married-couple families, race, and Hispanic origin, March 1979

Characteristic	Number of wives (thousands)	Median percent of family income accounted for by earnings of wife
WHITE		
Total, wives with earnings	**25,508**	**25.3**
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks full time	10,107	37.2
Family income:		
Under $10,000	390	62.3
$10,000 to $14,999	899	50.4
$15,000 to $19,999	1,626	42.0
$20,000 to $24,999	1,954	38.6
$25,000 and over	5,238	33.0
Median family income	$25,593	—
Wife worked 27 to 49 weeks full time	3,085	29.0
Median family income	$20,427	—
Wife worked 1 to 26 weeks full time or 1 to 52 weeks part time	10,316	10.7
Median family income	$19,630	—
BLACK		
Total, wives with earnings	**2,078**	**33.2**
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks full time	1,085	41.3
Family income:		
Under $10,000	57	[1]
$10,000 to $14,999	147	48.4
$15,000 to $19,999	209	43.9
$20,000 to $24,999	216	38.8
$25,000 and over	455	37.7
Median family income	$22,977	—
Wife worked 27 to 49 weeks full time	324	34.2
Median family income	$18,180	—
Wife worked 1 to 26 weeks full time or 1 to 52 weeks part time	670	15.9
Median family income	$13,470	—
HISPANIC ORIGIN		
Total, wives with earnings	**1,103**	**28.1**
Wife worked 50 to 52 weeks full time	443	39.9
Family income:		
Under $10,000	26	[1]
$10,000 to $14,999	70	[1]
$15,000 to $19,999	103	41.7
$20,000 to $24,999	87	40.4
$25,000 and over	157	33.7
Median family income	$21,285	—
Wife worked 27 to 49 weeks full time	183	31.8
Median family income	$17,300	—
Wife worked 1 to 26 weeks full time or 1 to 52 weeks part time	477	14.0
Median family income	$14,524	—

[1] Median not shown where base is less than 75,000.

Table 78. Number of women and men 16 years and over below poverty level and poverty rate by age, race, and Hispanic origin, 1975-78

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and year	White		Black		Hispanic	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
WOMEN						
1975	7,201	10.2	2,667	31.4	N.A.	N.A.
1976	7,026	9.8	2,781	31.3	872	23.7
1977	6,864	9.4	2,850	31.3	870	21.9
1978	6,990	9.5	2,859	30.7	822	20.9
MEN						
1975	4,378	7.0	1,417	21.1	N.A.	N.A.
1976	4,118	6.2	1,440	19.6	588	18.0
1977	4,147	6.2	1,429	19.1	553	15.5
1978	4,079	6.0	1,387	18.3	542	14.9

N.A. = not available.

Table 79. White, black, and Hispanic families by type, March, 1975-79

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin, and year	All families	Married-couple families[1]	Other families[2]		
			Maintained by men[1]	Maintained by women	
				Total	As percent of all families
WHITE					
1975	49,440	43,050	1,182	5,208	10.5
1976	49,873	43,311	1,182	5,380	10.8
1977	50,083	43,397	1,219	5,467	10.9
1978	50,529	43,423	1,278	5,828	11.5
1979	50,911	43,637	1,356	5,918	11.6
BLACK					
1975	5,491	3,357	200	1,934	35.2
1976	5,585	3,352	229	2,004	35.9
1977	5,804	3,407	246	2,151	37.1
1978	5,806	3,260	269	2,277	39.2
1979	5,907	3,244	273	2,390	40.5
HISPANIC					
1975	2,475	1,926	87	462	18.7
1976	2,499	1,896	81	522	20.9
1977	2,583	1,978	88	517	20.0
1978	2,764	2,104	99	561	20.3
1979	2,741	2,089	110	542	19.8

[1] Includes men in Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.
[2] Maintained by never-married, widowed, divorced, or separated persons.

Table 80.
Labor force status of women and men maintaining families by race and Hispanic origin, and presence and age of own children under 18, March,1975 and 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin, and presence and age of children	1975			1979		
	Population	Labor force	Labor force participation rate	Population	Labor force	Labor force participation rate
WHITE						
Women maintaining families	5,208	2,896	55.6	5,918	3,661	61.9
With children under 18	2,972	1,866	62.8	3,511	2,481	70.7
With children 6-17 only	1,851	1,265	68.3	2,357	1,773	75.2
With children under 6	1,122	601	53.6	1,154	709	61.4
With no children under 18	2,236	1,030	46.1	2,408	1,180	49.0
Men[1] maintaining families	1,182	879	74.9	1,355	1,007	75.0
With children under 18	348	305	87.6	444	393	88.5
With no children under 18	835	574	68.7	911	614	67.4
BLACK						
Women maintaining families	1,934	988	51.1	2,390	1,283	53.7
With children under 18	1,378	740	53.7	1,684	951	56.5
With children 6-17 only	761	464	61.0	954	598	62.7
With children under 6	618	276	44.7	730	353	48.4
With no children under 18	555	248	44.7	706	332	47.0
Men[1] maintaining families	200	142	71.3	272	193	71.3
With children under 18	69	54	(2)	116	96	82.8
With no children under 18	131	88	67.2	156	97	62.2
HISPANIC						
Women maintaining families	462	201	43.5	542	251	46.3
With children under 18	352	147	41.8	410	181	44.1
With children 6-17 only	182	85	46.7	210	108	51.4
With children under 6	170	62	36.5	200	73	36.5
With no children under 18	110	54	49.1	132	70	53.0
Men[1] maintaining families	87	63	73.4	110	88	80.0
With children under 18	26	18	(2)	36	31	(2)
With no children under 18	61	45	(2)	73	57	(2)

[1]Population includes a few male members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.

[2]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: Children are defined as "own" children of the family. Included are never-married sons, daughters, step children and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and unrelated children.

Table 81.
Labor force status of women maintaining families by race and Hispanic origin, marital status, and presence and age of children under 18, March 1979

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin, and labor force status	Women maintaining families, total	Never married	Married, husband absent	Divorced	Widowed
WHITE					
Population, total	5,918	681	1,049	2,297	1,891
Labor force	3,661	418	635	1,865	743
Labor force participation rate	61.9	61.4	60.5	81.2	39.3
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.2	11.2	5.9	5.8
With no children under 18					
Population	2,408	383	145	474	1,406
Labor force	1,180	247	85	363	485
Labor force participation rate	49.0	64.5	58.6	76.6	34.5
Unemployment rate	3.6	3.2	4.7	2.8	4.1
With children under 18					
Population	3,511	298	904	1,823	485
Labor force	2,481	171	550	1,502	258
Labor force participation rate	70.7	57.4	60.8	82.4	53.2
Unemployment rate	8.5	12.9	12.4	6.7	8.5
BLACK					
Population, total	2,390	705	687	474	523
Labor force	1,283	390	417	313	163
Labor force participation rate	53.7	55.3	60.7	66.0	31.2
Unemployment rate	12.9	21.3	9.6	11.2	4.3
With no children under 18					
Population	706	118	147	93	348
Labor force	333	84	95	61	93
Labor force participation rate	47.2	71.2	64.6	65.6	26.7
Unemployment rate	4.5	3.6	4.2	(1)	3.2
With children under 18					
Population	1,684	588	540	381	174
Labor force	951	307	322	252	70
Labor force participation rate	56.5	52.2	59.6	66.1	40.2
Unemployment rate	15.8	26.1	11.5	11.9	(1)

See footnote at end of table.

Table 81. Continued.

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin , and labor force status	Women maintaining families, total	Never married	Married, husband absent	Divorced	Widowed
HISPANIC					
Population, total	542	126	194	137	86
Labor force	251	60	74	87	30
Labor force participation rate	46.3	47.6	38.1	63.5	34.9
Unemployment rate	12.4	(1)	(1)	9.2	(1)
With no children under 18					
Population	132	29	24	28	52
Labor force	70	27	14	15	15
Labor force participation rate	53.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Unemployment rate	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
With children under 18					
Population	410	97	170	109	34
Labor force	181	33	61	72	15
Labor force participation rate	44.1	34.0	35.9	66.1	(1)
Unemployment rate	13.8	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

[1]Rate not shown where base is less than 75,000

See note on table 80.

Table 82.
Families by type and race, March 1979, and median family income in 1978

Type of family	Number of families (thousands)			Median family income, 1978		
	Total	White	Black	Total	White	Black
All families	57,804	50,910	5,906	$17,640	$18,368	$10,879
Married-couple families	47,692	43,636	3,244	19,340	19,638	15,913
Wife in paid labor force[1]	23,005	20,624	1,934	22,109	22,372	19,073
Wife not in paid labor force	24,686	23,012	1,310	16,156	16,533	11,180
Other families:						
Maintained by women	8,468	5,918	2,390	8,537	9,911	5,888
Maintained by men	1,655	1,355	272	15,966	16,914	12,080

[1]Persons 14 years and over are classified in the paid labor force if they were employed as wage and salary workers or self-employed workers during the survey week (in March 1979) or were looking for work at the time and had last worked as wage and salary or self-employed workers.

Table 83. Number of own children by age of children, race and Hispanic origin, type of family, and labor force status of mother, March 1979, and median family income in 1978

Item	Children under 18 years		
	White	Black	Hispanic
	Number of children (thousands)		
Total children	**49,557**	**7,764**	**4,194**
Mother in labor force	**25,122**	**4,360**	**1,743**
Mother not in labor force	**23,712**	**3,219**	**2,378**
Children in married-couple families	42,809	3,947	3,261
Mother in labor force	21,095	2,425	1,414
Mother not in labor force	21,714	1,522	1,847
Children in families maintained by women	6,025	3,632	860
Mother in labor force	4,027	1,935	329
Mother not in labor force	1,999	1,697	531
Children in families maintained by men	723	185	72
	Median family income, 1978		
Total children	**$19,213**	**$ 9,793**	**$12,171**
Mother in labor force	**20,542**	**12,983**	**15,395**
Mother not in labor force	**17,991**	**6,613**	**10,174**
Children in married-couple families	20,680	16,726	14,390
Mother in labor force	22,438	19,575	17,152
Mother not in labor force	18,950	11,854	12,240
Children in families maintained by women	7,606	5,082	7,330
Mother in labor force	9,705	6,932	7,965
Mother not in labor force	4,722	4,055	4,427
Children in families maintained by men	16,344	11,318	(1)

See footnote at end of table.

Table 83. Continued.

Item	Children 6 to 17 years		
	White	Black	Hispanic
	Number of children (thousands)		
Total children	**35,114**	**5,619**	**2,725**
Mother in labor force	**19,192**	**3,297**	**1,204**
Mother not in labor force	**15,312**	**2,183**	**1,461**
Children in married-couple families	29,860	2,797	2,076
Mother in labor force	15,979	1,790	968
Mother not in labor force	13,881	1,007	1,108
Children in families maintained by women	4,645	2,684	589
Mother in labor force	3,213	1,508	235
Mother not in labor force	1,432	1,177	353
Children in families maintained by men	610	138	60
	Median family income, 1978		
Total children	**$20,389**	**$10,229**	**$12,871**
Mother in labor force	**21,606**	**13,367**	**16,106**
Mother not in labor force	**19,003**	**7,026**	**10,508**
Children in married-couple families	22,102	17,472	15,351
Mother in labor force	23,632	20,650	17,945
Mother not in labor force	20,129	11,799	12,785
Children in families maintained by women	8,718	5,620	5,423
Mother in labor force	10,607	7,286	7,838
Mother not in labor force	5,155	4,500	4,699
Children in families maintained by men	17,671	11,586	(1)

See footnote at end of table.

Table 83. Continued.

Item	Children under 6 years		
	White	Black	Hispanic
	Number of children (thousands)		
Total children	**14,443**	**2,145**	**1,469**
Mother in labor force	**5,929**	**1,063**	**540**
Mother not in labor force	**8,400**	**1,035**	**917**
Children in married-couple families	12,949	1,151	1,186
Mother in labor force	5,116	636	446
Mother not in labor force	7,833	515	740
Children in families maintained by women	1,381	948	272
Mother in labor force	813	427	94
Mother not in labor force	567	520	178
Children in families maintained by men	114	47	12
	Median family income, 1978		
Total children	**$16,854**	**$ 8,472**	**$11,137**
Mother in labor force	**17,632**	**11,881**	**13,747**
Mother not in labor force	**16,380**	**5,995**	**9,523**
Children in married-couple families	17,910	15,274	12,741
Mother in labor force	19,088	17,114	15,550
Mother not in labor force	17,116	11,971	11,508
Children in families maintained by women	4,951	3,806	4,205
Mother in labor force	7,039	5,399	5,364
Mother not in labor force	3,839	3,253	4,037
Children in families maintained by men	11,823	(1)	(1)

(1)Median not shown where base is less than 75,000.

See note on table 80.

Part VII.

Additional Characteristics

Data in this section go beyond the overview provided by measures of labor force participation and unemployment to give a better insight on working women. For example, women work fewer hours than men, but when they work overtime, they are more likely to receive premium pay. And although women are still less likely than men to hold second jobs, the proportion of "moonlighters" among women nearly doubled during the 1970's.

Table 84.
Average hours worked by nonfarm wage and salary workers by sex and occupation, May 1979

Sex and occupation	All schedules		Full-time schedules	
	Number of workers (thousands)	Average weekly hours	Number of workers (thousands)	Average weekly hours
WOMEN				
White collar, total	23,232	35.5	16,446	40.3
Professional-technical	6,017	36.9	4,482	41.3
Managerial	2,045	40.6	1,727	42.9
Sales	2,105	29.7	1,003	40.0
Clerical	13,065	34.9	9,235	39.3
Blue collar, total	5,296	36.7	3,952	39.7
Craft	636	38.5	508	41.3
Operatives	4,184	37.0	3,171	39.5
Nonfarm laborers	476	32.6	274	39.0
Service	6,925	29.3	3,184	36.8
MEN				
White collar, total	19,748	43.7	17,666	45.4
Professional-technical	7,511	43.4	6,771	44.7
Managerial	6,294	47.1	5,976	47.7
Sales	2,746	42.5	2,328	45.6
Clerical	3,197	38.8	2,591	41.9
Blue collar, total	23,000	40.7	19,274	43.0
Craft	10,248	41.8	9,045	43.1
Operatives	8,903	41.8	7,649	43.7
Nonfarm laborers	3,850	35.1	2,579	41.1
Service	4,417	36.7	3,030	43.8

Table 85.
Days usually worked by nonfarm wage and salary workers by sex and full- or part-time status, May 1979

Days worked	Days usually worked			Usually worked full time		Usually worked part time	
	Total	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Total reporting days (in thousands)	**82,109**	**35,207**	**46,902**	**25,245**	**42,467**	**9,962**	**4,435**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Less than five days	11.9	18.2	7.1	2.2	2.2	58.7	54.2
Three days or less	7.2	11.5	4.0	.2	.4	40.3	38.2
Four days	4.1	5.9	2.8	1.2	1.4	17.7	15.4
Four and a half days	.5	.8	.3	.8	.3	.7	.5
Five days or more	88.1	81.8	92.9	97.8	97.8	41.3	45.8
Five days	75.3	75.3	75.3	90.4	79.4	37.2	36.1
Five and a half days	3.0	1.3	4.2	1.7	4.6	.3	.7
Six days	8.1	4.3	11.0	4.7	11.4	3.2	7.1
Seven days	1.7	.9	2.4	1.0	2.4	.5	2.1
Average (mean) days	4.90	4.70	5.04	5.06	5.16	3.80	3.93

Table 86.
Shift worked by nonfarm wage and salary workers who usually work full time by sex and marital status, May 1979

Sex and marital status	Total reporting (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total	Day	Evening	Night	Other
Women, total	**22,277**	**100.0**	**87.4**	**7.0**	**2.5**	**3.0**
Married, husband present	12,199	100.0	89.2	5.7	2.5	2.6
Never married	5,234	100.0	85.5	8.7	2.3	3.6
Other marital status	4,844	100.0	85.0	8.5	3.1	3.4
Men, total	**38,273**	**100.0**	**81.7**	**8.8**	**4.0**	**5.6**
Married, wife present	28,320	100.0	82.5	7.8	3.9	5.7
Never married	7,082	100.0	79.4	11.8	3.8	4.9
Other marital status	2,871	100.0	78.9	10.2	5.1	5.9

Table 87.
Absence rates for full-time nonfarm wage and salary workers by sex and age, May 1978

Sex and age	Number of workers (thousands)	Incidence rate (percent of workers absent)			Inactivity rate (percent of aggregate time lost)		
		Total	Illness and injury	Miscellaneous reasons	Total	Illness and injury	Miscellaneous reasons
WOMEN							
Total, 16 years and over	**22,689**	**8.6**	**6.1**	**3.5**	**4.3**	**2.8**	**1.6**
16 to 19	1,114	12.3	6.7	6.2	5.4	2.7	2.7
20 to 24	4,009	8.7	5.0	3.8	4.0	2.2	1.7
25 to 34	6,482	8.9	5.3	3.1	4.5	2.7	1.8
35 to 44	4,341	8.0	4.8	3.2	4.2	2.9	1.3
45 to 54	3,899	7.5	4.9	2.6	3.8	2.8	1.0
55 to 64	2,531	8.9	5.6	3.2	5.0	3.6	1.4
65 and over	314	7.5	4.5	3.0	5.9	3.5	2.4
MEN							
Total, 16 years and over	**37,464**	**5.8**	**3.4**	**1.9**	**3.1**	**2.1**	**1.0**
16 to 19	1,415	7.3	3.9	3.4	3.5	2.0	1.4
20 to 24	5,262	6.9	4.7	2.8	3.6	2.0	1.5
25 to 34	11,117	4.9	2.8	2.1	2.6	1.5	1.1
35 to 44	7,638	4.5	2.9	1.6	2.8	1.9	.9
45 to 54	6,999	5.0	3.7	1.3	3.0	2.5	.5
55 to 64	4,554	5.8	4.1	1.7	4.0	3.0	.9
65 and over	478	7.3	4.7	2.6	4.3	3.5	.8

Table 88.
Overtime workers by usual hours, premium pay, sex, and marital status, May 1979

Sex and marital status	Total			Usually worked 41 hours		
		Percent			Percent	
	Number (thousands)	Received premium pay	Did not receive premium pay	Number (thousands)	Received premium pay	Did not receive premium pay
Women, total	**3,986**	**45.3**	**54.6**	**2,182**	**29.9**	**70.1**
Married husband present	2,059	45.9	54.0	1,135	30.0	70.0
Never married	944	43.2	56.8	514	29.4	70.6
Separated	197	45.7	54.3	104	29.8	70.2
Widowed and divorced	789	46.1	53.9	430	30.5	69.5
Men, total	**14,778**	**41.9**	**58.1**	**10,713**	**32.7**	**67.3**
Married wife present	11,300	40.6	59.4	8,249	31.1	68.9
Never married	2,283	46.6	53.4	1,595	38.6	61.4
Separated	365	47.7	52.3	260	40.0	60.0
Widowed and divorced	830	44.5	55.5	609	35.3	64.7

Sex and marital status	Usually worked less than 41 hours		
		Percent	
	Number (thousands)	Received premium pay	Did not receive premium pay
Women, total	**1,805**	**64.0**	**36.0**
Married husband present	924	65.7	34.3
Never married	429	59.7	40.3
Separated	93	63.4	36.6
Widowed and divorced	359	64.9	35.1
Men, total	**4,066**	**66.2**	**33.8**
Married wife present	3,052	56.2	33.8
Never married	688	65.0	35.0
Separated	105	66.7	33.3
Widowed and divorced	221	69.7	30.3

Table 89.
Number and percent of full-time wage and salary workers who worked long weeks and received premium pay by selected characteristics, May 1979

Characteristic	Worked 41 hours or more		Received premium pay	
	Number (thousands)	Percent of full-time workers	Number (thousands)	Percent of those who worked 41 hours or more
WOMEN	**3,986**	**15.0**	**1,807**	**45.3**
Age:				
16 to 19	134	11.0	78	58.2
20 to 24	701	15.1	408	58.2
25 to 54	2,708	15.6	1,163	42.9
55 and over	443	13.6	159	35.9
Race:				
White	3,616	15.9	1,621	44.8
Black and other	371	9.6	186	50.1
Marital status:				
Never married	944	15.1	408	43.2
Married, spouse present	2,059	14.2	947	46.0
Other[1]	985	17.1	453	46.0
Union status:				
Union[2]	711	11.3	354	49.8
Other	3,276	16.2	1,453	44.4
MEN	**14,778**	**32.7**	**6,191**	**41.9**
Age:				
16 to 19	420	24.5	244	58.1
20 to 24	1,994	31.6	1,127	56.5
25 to 54	10,666	34.4	4,254	39.9
55 and over	1,696	27.6	565	33.3
Race:				
White	13,761	34.2	5,642	41.0
Black and other	1,017	20.7	549	54.0
Marital status:				
Never married	2,283	25.8	1,063	46.6
Married, spouse present	11,300	34.5	4,585	40.6
Other[1]	1,195	33.2	543	45.4
Union status:				
Union[2]	3,674	23.5	2,674	72.8
Other	11,105	37.6	3,518	31.7

[1]Includes separated, divorced and widowed persons.
[2]Data include workers who either are members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union, or whose job is covered by a union or employee association contract.

Table 90. Length of time on current job by sex, January 1978

(Percent distribution)

Length of time on job	Women	Men
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**
1 year or less	32.5	25.2
Over 1 to 2 years	13.6	10.4
Over 2 to 5 years	21.8	19.0
Over 5 to 10 years	16.4	16.9
Over 10 to 20 years	10.9	15.7
Over 20 years	4.7	12.9
Median number of years on current job	2.6 years	4.5 years

Table 91. Occupational mobility of employed persons between January 1977 and January 1978 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, January 1978

Characteristic	Total employed in January 1978		Status in January 1977				Occupational mobility rate[1]
	Number	Percent	Same occupation	Different occupation	Unemployed	Not in labor force	
WOMEN							
Total, 18 years old and over, not in school	**35,447**	**100.0**	**74.1**	**9.8**	**4.4**	**11.8**	**11.7**
18 and 19	1,613	100.0	33.4	23.0	8.5	35.1	40.8
20 to 24	5,535	100.0	58.4	17.1	7.2	17.4	22.6
25 to 34	9,438	100.0	70.4	11.8	4.8	13.0	14.4
35 to 44	7,021	100.0	77.7	8.0	3.5	10.8	9.3
45 to 54	6,457	100.0	85.9	4.6	3.5	5.9	5.1
55 to 64	4,285	100.0	90.1	3.4	1.7	4.8	3.6
65 and over	1,098	100.0	89.5	2.3	.9	7.4	2.5
White	30,897	100.0	73.6	10.3	4.0	12.1	12.2
Black	3,886	100.0	78.4	6.3	6.4	8.8	7.5
Hispanic origin	1,445	100.0	60.2	9.1	6.5	15.2	11.6
MEN							
Total, 18 years old and over, not in school	**51,117**	**100.0**	**80.9**	**10.5**	**4.5**	**4.1**	**11.5**
18 and 19	1,782	100.0	33.5	26.4	11.1	29.0	44.1
20 to 24	6,415	100.0	57.5	21.9	9.9	10.7	27.8
25 to 34	14,140	100.0	78.1	14.3	4.8	2.8	15.5
35 to 44	10,473	100.0	87.7	7.7	3.2	1.4	8.1
45 to 54	9,838	100.0	91.5	4.3	2.9	1.3	4.5
55 to 64	6,702	100.0	92.5	3.3	2.2	2.1	3.4
65 and over	1,767	100.0	90.8	1.8	1.9	5.5	2.0
White	45,944	100.0	81.2	10.7	4.1	4.0	11.6
Black	4,371	100.0	77.8	9.2	8.7	4.4	10.6
Hispanic origin	2,384	100.0	77.8	10.9	6.2	5.1	12.2

[1]Percent of persons employed in both January 1977 and January 1978 who had a different occupation in January 1978 than in January 1977.

Table 92.
Multiple jobholding rates of employed women and men and main reason for working at more than one job, May 1979

Item	Women	Men
Number of persons with more than one job (thousands)	**1,407**	**3,317**
Multiple jobholders as percent of total employed	**3.5**	**5.9**
MAIN REASON FOR WORKING AT MORE THAN ONE JOB		
All reasons: Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**
Meet regular expenses	34.3	28.8
Pay off debts	7.7	6.3
Save for the future	5.9	11.0
Get experience	7.1	8.8
Help friend or relative	6.4	5.6
Buy something special	9.6	7.8
Enjoy the work	16.0	19.1
Other reasons	13.0	12.6

Table 93.
Membership of women in national unions and employee associations, selected years, 1960-78

Year	Number of women members (thousands)	Percent of total membership
Unions and associations:		
1970	5,398	23.9
1972	5,736	24.9
1974	6,038	25.0
1976	6,438	26.7
1978	6,696	27.5
Unions:		
1960	3,304	18.3
1962	3,272	18.6
1964	3,413	19.0
1966	3,689	19.3
1968	3,940	19.5
1970	4,282	20.7
1972	4,524	21.7
1974	4,600	21.3
1976	4,648	22.0
1978	5,106	23.5

Table 94.
Employment status of women, by State, annual averages, 1978

(Numbers in thousands)

State	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Number	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Rate
Alabama	1,408	630	44.7	576	54	8.5
Alaska	125	78	62.4	70	7	9.0
Arizona	874	408	46.7	383	25	6.1
Arkansas	852	396	46.5	363	33	8.3
California	8,549	4,464	52.2	4,108	357	8.0
Colorado	994	535	53.8	499	35	6.6
Connecticut	1,215	647	53.3	604	43	6.7
Delaware	224	112	50.0	102	11	9.5
District of Columbia	273	164	60.1	152	12	7.5
Florida	3,471	1,581	45.5	1,455	127	8.0
Georgia	1,935	1,008	52.1	934	74	7.3
Hawaii	312	179	57.4	165	14	7.6
Idaho	314	163	51.9	152	10	6.4
Illinois	4,318	2,203	51.0	2,047	156	7.1
Indiana	2,036	1,067	52.4	988	79	7.4
Iowa	1,105	583	52.8	559	25	4.2
Kansas	909	499	54.9	480	19	3.7
Kentucky	1,323	628	47.5	584	43	6.9
Louisiana	1,459	629	43.1	572	57	9.1
Maine	410	193	47.1	179	13	6.8
Maryland	1,601	856	53.5	797	60	7.0
Massachusetts	2,296	1,219	53.1	1,141	79	6.5
Michigan	3,461	1,699	49.1	1,553	146	8.6
Minnesota	1,490	829	55.6	790	40	4.8
Mississippi	896	422	47.1	377	45	10.7
Missouri	1,911	968	50.7	907	61	6.3
Montana	282	145	51.4	134	10	7.3
Nebraska	607	342	56.3	330	11	3.3
Nevada	235	134	57.0	126	7	5.6
New Hampshire	327	181	55.4	172	8	4.6
New Jersey	2,902	1,435	49.4	1,312	123	8.6
New Mexico	440	215	48.9	200	15	6.8
New York	7,132	3,283	46.0	3,014	268	8.2
North Carolina	2,132	1,184	55.5	1,116	68	5.8
North Dakota	234	112	47.9	106	6	5.1
Ohio	4,152	2,030	48.9	1,905	126	6.2
Oklahoma	1,111	524	47.2	500	24	4.6
Oregon	920	483	52.5	450	32	6.7
Pennsylvania	4,713	2,122	45.0	1,952	170	8.0
Rhode Island	373	184	49.3	173	11	5.9
South Carolina	1,089	575	52.8	532	44	7.6
South Dakota	256	135	52.7	130	5	4.0
Tennessee	1,699	818	48.1	758	59	7.3
Texas	4,776	2,441	51.1	2,284	156	6.4
Utah	446	212	47.5	203	9	4.2
Vermont	183	102	55.7	94	7	7.1
Virginia	1,940	1,047	54.0	976	71	6.7
Washington	1,420	722	50.8	665	57	7.9
West Virginia	712	252	35.4	232	20	7.9
Wisconsin	1,781	967	54.3	906	61	6.3
Wyoming	149	82	55.0	78	3	4.2

Table 95. Occupational distribution of employed women by State, annual averages, 1978

(Percent distribution)

State	White-collar workers				
	Total	Professional and technical	Managers and administrators except farm	Sales workers	Clerical workers
Alabama	59.6	14.8	6.5	6.2	32.1
Alaska	71.7	19.0	7.8	6.7	38.1
Arizona	68.4	16.6	6.2	9.1	36.5
Arkansas	52.8	12.1	6.2	6.3	28.3
California	69.2	15.7	8.2	7.6	37.7
Colorado	66.6	14.0	8.2	8.2	36.3
Connecticut	68.1	19.4	5.2	8.4	35.1
Delaware	67.5	16.6	6.8	6.7	37.4
District of Columbia	74.3	21.6	5.7	3.6	43.4
Florida	64.3	12.4	7.2	8.3	36.5
Georgia	61.3	15.2	5.5	5.3	35.2
Hawaii	64.0	14.1	6.6	8.2	35.1
Idaho	62.5	14.8	5.4	8.8	33.4
Illinois	65.8	16.3	6.1	6.6	36.8
Indiana	54.3	13.8	4.4	6.1	30.0
Iowa	55.5	15.0	4.3	6.5	29.7
Kansas	60.0	14.2	5.8	6.7	33.3
Kentucky	57.1	15.3	3.9	6.6	31.2
Louisiana	67.2	17.0	7.0	7.5	35.7
Maine	56.0	16.8	6.1	5.6	27.4
Maryland	72.6	19.3	5.7	6.7	40.9
Massachusetts	64.6	18.7	4.7	6.0	35.1
Michigan	60.5	14.3	5.1	6.7	34.4
Minnesota	61.8	15.9	6.6	7.8	31.6
Mississippi	50.7	12.7	5.5	5.7	26.7
Missouri	60.7	16.1	5.7	7.1	31.8
Montana	62.2	14.2	7.8	8.7	31.5
Nebraska	59.9	15.1	6.1	7.6	31.1
Nevada	60.3	12.8	7.4	7.0	33.1
New Hampshire	60.4	13.9	5.4	6.9	34.2
New Jersey	66.9	18.0	5.8	6.8	36.3
New Mexico	67.3	17.6	6.9	8.1	34.8
New York	68.3	17.9	6.1	6.2	38.1
North Carolina	50.7	13.5	5.1	4.1	28.0
North Dakota	58.4	15.0	6.1	6.2	31.0
Ohio	62.3	15.6	5.4	7.8	33.5
Oklahoma	65.4	14.9	6.5	8.2	35.9
Oregon	62.7	13.2	7.0	7.9	34.5
Pennsylvania	60.7	15.1	5.3	6.7	33.6
Rhode Island	53.5	14.5	4.0	5.6	29.3
South Carolina	54.4	12.5	4.2	5.7	31.9
South Dakota	55.2	15.1	5.0	7.7	27.4
Tennessee	51.5	13.5	4.5	5.7	27.7
Texas	65.3	15.2	6.2	7.1	36.7
Utah	63.2	15.9	6.0	5.9	35.3
Vermont	61.9	18.5	6.1	8.0	29.3
Virginia	64.8	17.1	6.7	6.0	35.0
Washington	66.1	16.6	7.4	7.1	35.1
West Virginia	61.9	15.4	6.3	4.9	35.2
Wisconsin	59.4	14.5	5.9	7.4	31.6
Wyoming	61.6	12.9	6.9	8.2	33.7

See footnote at end of table.

Table 95. Continued.

(Percent distribution)

State	Blue-collar workers				Service workers	Farm workers
	Total	Craft and kindred workers	Operatives, except transport	Nonfarm laborers		
Alabama	16.8	1.8	12.8	1.5	22.8	(1)
Alaska	7.6	1.2	2.7	3.0	20.6	(1)
Arizona	10.5	1.8	7.1	1.0	20.8	(1)
Arkansas	22.9	2.6	17.9	2.1	21.6	2.7
California	12.0	1.8	8.5	1.2	17.9	(1)
Colorado	10.3	2.0	6.2	1.4	21.6	1.5
Connecticut	14.4	1.3	11.7	1.3	17.0	(1)
Delaware	11.8	2.2	6.8	1.1	19.7	1.1
District of Columbia	4.0	(1)	2.6	(1)	21.7	(1)
Florida	12.0	1.7	8.2	1.1	22.0	1.7
Georgia	18.4	2.3	14.1	1.6	19.3	1.0
Hawaii	9.7	1.5	6.6	(1)	23.0	3.3
Idaho	12.6	3.3	7.1	1.6	22.4	2.5
Illinois	14.3	1.7	10.5	1.5	19.3	(1)
Indiana	21.8	2.4	17.0	1.5	21.7	2.1
Iowa	13.0	2.1	8.8	1.2	27.3	4.3
Kansas	12.9	1.9	8.4	1.6	23.8	3.3
Kentucky	16.9	2.1	13.4	(1)	22.7	3.2
Louisiana	8.4	1.5	4.9	1.0	23.8	(1)
Maine	19.5	1.3	16.7	1.4	23.3	1.1
Maryland	8.4	1.4	5.0	1.1	18.2	(1)
Massachusetts	17.5	1.6	14.1	1.0	17.8	(1)
Michigan	14.7	1.5	10.9	1.5	23.9	1.0
Minnesota	11.2	1.5	8.1	1.0	24.7	2.3
Mississippi	26.1	2.0	22.2	1.0	21.8	1.4
Missouri	14.1	1.6	10.7	1.4	23.0	2.2
Montana	6.2	1.6	2.7	1.7	26.3	5.3
Nebraska	12.8	2.3	9.0	1.0	23.2	4.1
Nevada	6.2	1.4	3.0	1.0	31.9	1.5
New Hampshire	21.3	2.4	17.2	1.3	17.2	1.1
New Jersey	15.1	1.2	12.5	(1)	17.9	(1)
New Mexico	9.7	1.8	5.0	1.5	21.2	1.7
New York	13.0	1.5	10.1	(1)	18.2	(1)
North Carolina	30.6	2.1	26.5	1.4	16.9	1.8
North Dakota	6.8	1.7	3.8	1.0	29.3	5.6
Ohio	14.9	1.8	11.1	1.3	22.0	(1)
Oklahoma	10.7	2.7	6.2	1.1	22.0	1.9
Oregon	10.5	1.6	6.2	1.2	24.9	2.0
Pennsylvania	17.2	1.8	13.5	1.3	21.3	(1)
Rhode Island	28.2	2.0	24.6	1.0	18.2	(1)
South Carolina	25.1	1.7	21.4	1.5	19.7	(1)
South Dakota	10.5	2.5	6.3	1.0	26.6	7.8
Tennessee	26.6	2.7	22.3	1.2	21.1	(1)
Texas	12.0	2.0	7.9	1.6	21.5	1.2
Utah	14.7	1.3	11.9	1.1	21.0	1.1
Vermont	12.9	2.0	9.5	1.2	22.4	2.8
Virginia	14.5	1.4	10.5	1.6	19.5	1.2
Washington	11.5	1.8	6.2	2.5	20.5	1.9
West Virginia	13.5	1.4	10.5	1.0	23.7	(1)
Wisconsin	14.7	2.2	10.8	1.0	22.1	3.9
Wyoming	8.6	2.1	4.8	1.3	25.0	4.8

[1]Less than 500 persons employed or less than 1.0 percent of total employed.

Table 96. Percent of employment and occupational injuries and illnesses among women workers by selected occupations, 1977

Occupation	Female employment as percent of total employment	Occupational injuries and illnesses	
		Total number	Percent accounted for by women
Total	**40.5**	**1,250,284**	**21.1**
Professional, technical and kindred workers	42.6	43,738	49.3
Registered nurses	96.7	6,564	94.8
Teachers, except college and university	70.9	10,216	62.3
Elementary school teachers	84.2	3,804	76.3
Secondary school teachers	51.2	3,558	45.7
Managers and administrators, except farm	22.3	33,915	22.3
Restaurant, bar managers	34.7	3,416	41.8
Sales managers and department heads, retail trade	36.2	5,242	26.2
Salesworkers	43.3	22,430	42.3
Sales clerks, retail trade	70.4	2,516	60.0
Clerical and kindred workers	78.9	56,474	55.3
Bookkeepers	90.0	2,133	85.9
Cashiers	87.0	5,393	77.7
Teachers aides	93.4	2,257	87.0
Typists	96.3	1,964	94.1
Craft and kindred workers	5.0	230,306	3.0
Operatives, except transport	39.6	255,123	22.5
Assemblers	50.3	31,312	37.9
Meat cutters, butchers, manufacturing	35.2	9,007	15.5
Packers, wrappers, except retail	63.6	10,322	54.9
Sewers and stitchers	95.2	4,412	90.6
Transport equipment operatives	6.8	87,328	4.7
Bus drivers	42.2	5,366	34.6
Laborers, except farm	9.4	237,161	9.6
Service workers, except private household	58.3	175,556	46.0
Cleaners and charwomen	96.1	7,412	41.5
Janitors and sextons	15.4	26,064	15.5
Cooks	56.3	17,815	44.3
Food counter and fountain workers	85.7	3,449	78.3
Waiters/waitresses	90.4	10,704	90.3
Housekeepers	64.6	2,517	73.4
Private household workers	97.0	469	86.6
Farmers and farm managers	6.4	517	2.5
Farm laborers and foremen	29.4	20,838	11.9
Farm laborers, wage workers	17.0	19,800	12.4

Table 97.
Percent of employment and occupational injuries and illnesses among women workers, selected States, 1977

State	Female employment as percent of total employment	Injuries and illnesses	
		Total number (in thousands)	Percent female workers
Total	**40.6**	**1,250,284**	**21.1**
Alaska	41.8	8,841	14.9
California	41.1	327,868	22.5
Colorado	40.4	33,954	19.9
Connecticut[1]	42.2	11,441	17.4
Hawaii	44.5	36,603	22.5
Idaho	39.0	38,290	17.9
Indiana	40.2	38,398	21.8
Iowa	40.0	18,510	19.8
Kentucky	39.8	51,015	18.9
Maine	40.5	43,828	21.0
Maryland	40.8	30,551	20.7
Michigan	38.6	70,537	23.0
Minnesota	39.9	50,802	25.0
Missouri	42.4	128,590	20.4
Montana	36.8	32,281	18.0
Nebraska	41.4	35,249	20.6
New Jersey	40.7	84,753	21.8
New Mexico	40.9	4,046	15.4
Oregon	39.9	43,777	21.0
South Dakota	39.4	17,397	21.4
Tennessee	41.6	25,649	19.9
Utah	38.6	20,491	16.6
Vermont	40.3	17,952	21.6
Virgin Islands	N.A.	1,531	18.0
Wisconsin	40.5	60,626	21.5
Wyoming	37.6	17,304	10.3

[1]In 1977, Connecticut provided injury and illness information only for manufacturing industries, excluding boat building and repair.

N.A. = not available.

Part VIII.

The 1980's

The United States has begun the 1980's facing several severe economic problems including inflation, recession, and uncertainty concerning the supply and price of energy.The economic climate which supported the strong labor force growth of women in the 1970's is changing and already there are indications that the growth in women's labor force participation may be slowing, perhaps temporarily. Between March 1979 and March 1980, the number of women in the labor force grew by about a million, but their labor force participation rate rose by only three-tenths of a percentage point. Over the same period, the proportion of black women in the labor force actually fell slightly as did the proportion of youth 16 to 24 years old. The labor market experience of women in the 1980's bears close watching for it may differ considerably from their experience in the past.

Table 98.
Summary indicators on working women by selected characteristics, January-June 1980

(Numbers in thousands; data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated)

Characteristic	Janaury 1980	February 1980	March 1980	April 1980	May 1980	June 1980
Population and labor force						
Civilian noninstitutional population	85,847	85,952	86,054	86,154	86,258	86,373
Civilian labor force	44,352	44,246	44,052	44,381	44,663	44,416
Labor force participation rates						
Women 16 and over	51.7	51.5	51.2	51.5	51.8	51.4
16 to 19 years	54.6	53.6	52.6	51.9	54.1	52.6
20 to 24 years	69.1	68.4	67.5	68.8	69.0	68.4
25 to 54 years	63.6	63.8	63.7	64.1	64.0	64.0
55 years and over	23.1	23.0	22.6	22.9	22.9	22.8
White	51.4	51.2	51.0	51.3	51.4	51.1
Black	53.3	52.8	52.2	52.3	53.7	52.5
Employment status						
Employed women, 16 years and over	41,318	41,221	41,054	41,156	41,165	41,079
16 to 19 years	3,743	3,617	3,551	3,553	3,598	3,547
20 to 24 years	6,375	6,368	6,301	6,330	6,281	6,266
25 to 54 years	25,632	25,677	25,704	25,746	25,732	25,720
55 years and over	5,568	5,559	5,488	5,532	5,554	5,546
Unemployed women, 16 years and over	3,034	3,025	2,997	3,225	3,498	3,337
16 to 19 years	731	765	737	689	819	739
20 to 24 years	695	636	616	719	810	759
25 to 54 years	1,410	1,454	1,481	1,626	1,664	1,678
55 years and over	198	169	164	191	205	161
Unemployment rates						
Women 16 years and over	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.3	7.8	7.5
16 to 19 years	16.3	17.6	17.3	16.3	18.7	17.3
20 to 24 years	9.8	9.1	9.0	10.2	11.6	10.8
25 to 54 years	5.2	5.4	5.5	6.0	6.1	6.1
55 years and over	3.4	3.0	2.9	3.4	3.6	2.8
White, 16 years and over	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.4	6.9	6.7
Black, 16 years and over	12.6	12.4	13.5	13.8	14.7	13.9
White, 16 to 19 years	13.8	14.5	14.8	14.5	16.7	14.6
Black, 16 to 19 years	39.1	43.0	39.5	35.4	42.0	39.2
Full-time workers (not seasonally adjusted)						
Percent of employed women working full time	70.8	71.0	71.2	71.0	70.4	72.3
Percent of unemployed women looking for full-time work	71.4	71.5	70.8	73.7	78.6	80.6
Duration of unemployment (not seasonally adjusted)						
Average (mean) number of weeks unemployed women have been looking for work	9.7	9.8	10.2	10.9	10.0	8.8

Table 99. Family status of women by selected characteristics, January-June 1980

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	January 1980	February 1980	March 1980	April 1980	May 1980	June 1980
Total women 16 years and over in families	**71,956**	**71,939**	**71,943**	**71,950**	**71,890**	**71,910**
Women maintaining families, no husband present:						
Population	8,701	8,696	8,551	8,686	8,696	8,744
Labor force participation rate	59.6	58.6	59.2	58.9	58.6	58.0
Unemployment rate	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.6	7.7	8.3
Married women, husband present:						
Population	48,301	48,347	48,377	48,210	48,151	48,103
Labor force participation rate	50.1	50.4	50.3	50.2	49.9	48.9
Unemployment rate	5.3	5.4	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.7
All other women in families:						
Population	14,954	14,896	15,015	15,054	15,043	15,063
Labor force participation rate	51.7	51.2	50.9	50.9	52.6	58.8
Unemployment rate	12.4	12.3	12.0	11.3	14.1	16.1

Table 100. Employed women by occupation, race, and Hispanic origin, 6-month average, January-June 1980

Occupation	Total	White	Black and other	Hispanic
Total: Number (in thousands)	**40,990**	**35,833**	**5,158**	**1,834**
Percent	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
White-collar workers	65.6	67.7	50.6	49.7
Professional-technical	16.9	17.3	14.8	8.9
Managerial-administrative, except farm	6.8	7.3	3.5	4.8
Sales	6.6	7.1	2.9	4.9
Clerical	35.2	36.0	29.4	31.1
Blue-collar workers	13.8	13.3	17.4	28.4
Craft	1.8	1.8	1.3	2.2
Operatives, except transport	10.1	9.5	14.1	2
Transport equipment operatives	.7	.7	.6	.3
Nonfarm laborers	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.7
Service workers	19.5	17.8	31.4	20.2
Private household	2.5	1.8	6.7	4.4
Other service	17.1	16.0	24.7	15.8
Farm	1.1	1.1	.6	1.7

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